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#5029-z
H. M. LYNN PAPERS

1858, 1861

Folder 1 of 5

Hope Will Tenn Dec 18 = 1858

Dear Sister I arrived hear last Thursday nigh a bout eight oclock I found uncle Shim Famly all well except cousin Fany I arrived at Jackson the same Day I left Memphis at 5 oclock P M I went to the Stable and hired a horse & come out hear I went Back to Jackson yeasday & taken the horse Back. I had my trunk Borought out on a wagon to Lem house I went up their this morning after it and Brat it home it cost me $5.50 come up hear I have not seen P yet I am a going over their to nigth & see them P & Fany are a going to see Aunt Fany next week. I like to ride on the cars very well I Done very well for the First time I Do not Know I Shall Do weather I will Stay in the Store or the Farm — Kitty has got a fine son it about as big as a kitten Lem is a going to move Christmas he has got his house most Done Sally is mitty proud of her Basket & Aunt Son her collar I Beleive I Quit For this time give my Love to all of the Famly & take a heap to your self, rite as soon as you git this. Say nothing more But remain your Borther Roland Simpson

To his Sister Mat S Simpson

Page(s)

Missing

lines that the enemy, after tearing down
the Secession flag had returned to
Cairo So ended our battle of the 12th
of June We were kept in suspense for
three hours and a half Every one con
fidently believed that a fight this morning by
eight Oclock was a certain fact.
Many and varied no doubt, were the
thoughts of the eight thousand men then
drawn up in line Who did I think
of most? Whose letter had I just read,
and when did I expect to hear from
that loved one again?
You said in your letter you hoped
I would not get the first letter you wrote, but I did
get it, and I am glad of it. Why you said
so I do not know. You said in your next
that you loved sympathy, and I would
like to know who is more capable of sym
pathizing with you than I am, I assure
you that the truth from you as regards

your own sadness can never make
me more anxious about you than I would
be if you did not give such information
I know, that if you regard me as I
believe you do, you must at times be sad
You told me of Ma's visit to your
house No doubt you felt "Kinder plagu
ed," as John Elmore used to say It "kin
der plagued", me to hear about it You
told me I must write often to my Ma. I
had already written. I love her very
much, and expect to write as often as
I can She ought to be satisfied to know
that I am well and doing well If I
was not she would soon hear about it.
I hope you and Proffessor will have
no serious difficulty. I fear neither
his charms nor his wrath The one is
powerless, and he dares not put the
promptings of the other into execution I
hope he may succeed better in storming
old Lincoln's forts than he has in making

love to my sweetheart, I hope too that all of you who have sweethearts in the army will be cheerful and not cry all the time and that those who tease you about such things will soon be in the army where they ought to be. You need never fear of such little occurances as yours and the Professors ever giving me the least anxiety;

"Never think that I doubt thee
I know thy truth remains"

Sam Moore, the singing school teacher and the man that took your likeness at Bloomington are both here in one company. John Malone is in our regiment. Billy Homes was up here yesterday and joined our company. Charlie has written to Billy to come home and join us. I hope he will.

Frank Courier, the fellow that came into church drunk at Clopton along with Smith the Sabbath evening that you were over there

deserted us yesterday morning, I expect he is in Cairo by this time I hope he may be taken up as a spy and hung before they can have time to find out who he is Any body there could perform that solumn ceremony for him now without mony compunctions Write soon Write often

Your own "Gridley"

P S There was about three thousand Cairoites came down to Columbus to get one poor little flag
They are still fighting " &c

Gridley

CONTINUATION OF LETTER WRITTEN BY H.M. LYNN TO MATTIE SIMPSON IN JUNE, 1861

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the seccion flag had returned to
Cario. So ended our battle of the 12th
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[June 1861]

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and the man that took your likeness at
Bloomington, are both here in our compa-
ny. John Malone is in our regiment. Billie
Homes was up here yesterday and joined
our company. Charlie has written to Billie
to come home and join us. I hope he
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spy and hung before they have time
to find out who he is. Anybody here
could perform that solumn ceremony
for him now without many compunc-
tions. Write soon write often

your own "Gridley"

P.S. There was about three thousand
Cairoites came down to Columbus
to get one poor little flag.
They are still fighting in Va.

Gridley

Randolph Tenn
Aug 11th 1861

Dear Mattie!

I am again upon the soil of old Tennessee It was quite unexpected to me, and I know it will be to you. I am here but know not how long I will stay We left New-Madrid yesterday evening but I understand the order has been countermanded, and the talk is that we will all go directly back again We did not know until we landed here where we were going. Our Colonel himself did not, I hope we will get to stay here long enough to see you all I have been quite well since I left you I received your dear, kind letter by the hands of Schaller It is not possible for me to

think more about you; or to love you any more than I do. I long to be with you. I will notice your [illegible] more [illegible] my next when I have more time. Although it was written when you were sad and lonely it afforded me a peculiar happiness to read; for there is nothing so lovely as love [illegible] in tears. I will send you this by the hands of Mr Hill. We may leave here [illegible] hours but if we stay then come and see me. I wish you saw me [illegible] this.

Lovingly and more
Yours most devotedly
[illegible]

Randolph, Tenn.
August 11, 1861

Dear Mattie

I am again upon
the sail of old Tennessee It
was quite unexpected to me and I
know it will be to you. I am
here, but know not how long.
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you saw me writing this

goodby once more

Yours most devoselly

[11 Aug. 1861]

"Gridley

Page(s)

Missing

5

(Saturday) I sit and wonder this evening how you are. if yo[illegible]
that I do hope you are better & not at all sick. This

Communications now stopped between Richmond & Manassas
Though she was denied that priviledge yet she can tell us
some very interesting stories about her travells & Virginia
Lindie has a great deal to say about her wealthy
widower beau that she caught at the Springs
of Mrs Tasker. lives near [illegible]ville, only one child
& she is an accomplished young lady.
She has carried me through the Catechism about
Charlie & all the rest of you. She was inclined to
talk over our past pleasures, our walk to the graveyard
that Saturday evening. then to church that night our fishing
party our Bloomington trip. The Exhibition evening & night
& every other little pleasant word or occurrence that we
remembered so well & are ever fresh in our memory's —
And then I must tell her how [illegible] what he said
I commenced with your arrival on Saturday evening & closed
with your departure on Wednesday.
Sunday night we came very near not going to sleep at all
& last night we was not much better and this morning
Mrs Miller sent for her & we was sorry to part for we had
not ~~completed~~ more than made a good beggining
Lindie was very much surprised when I told her

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remembered so well & are ever fresh in our memory's
And then I must tell her how Tim looked & what he said
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with your departure on Wednesday.
Sunday night we came very near not going to sleep at all
& last night we was not much better and this morning
Mrs Miller sent for her & we was sorry to part for we had
not ~~completed~~ more than made a good beggining
Lindie was very much surprised when I told her

all of the boys, That you are pulled & hauled & moved perhaps them that know best can see what is for the best pursuing such a course

Charlie has never seen but one letter from her said she had written often to him & also to me & I know no letters come for me save one that she penned at Richmond

Bettie Payne, & Pomp also stayed with us Sunday night. Pomp was so kind as to be my escort to church, I wished then that it was you how differently I should have felt.

Mr Cummins & Mr Niuford also took supper with us that evening. And I must tell you something little funny. He laughed and said that Dr Carr had ruined him in preaching the very sermons that he had prepared for the occasion. That was a little singular that they should have both selected the same Texts.

Mr Niuford preached off hand & some of his old sermons & comforted himself by saying Dr Carr done justice to both sermons, was more capable of doing so than he was.

The Ladies of this county are actively & earnestly engaged now in the soldiers cause, A few days ago the ladies of Petersville & surrounding vicinity met at our church & organized under the name of Southern Confederacy Aid Society. Mrs McNeil was elected President. Mrs Tom Banks, Vice President. Miss Em. Wright Secretary. Mrs Kinsman, Treasurer. Bettie S. & Beff with others beggars. Eliza Livington wrote out the resolutions & brought them

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all of the boys, that you are pulled & hauled, & moved
perhaps them that know best can see what is for the best
pursuing such a course

Sincerely - I will tell you just how I feel about you
more than any of the Confederate soldiers - but
for my life I cannot see much patriotism in

before the society. The president arose, & said she would sustain the motion that these resolutions be received & then seconded the motion herself. Look out for I think our Aid society will be in the papers, for it ought to be, for it would be so interesting & edifying, to all other ladies. (Laugh just as much as you please but dont for your life tell it.) They have already enough to fill two boxes one for well soldiers & the other for the hospital

Have also had a similar meeting at Elam church Mrs Wilson presided over theirs they all gave very liberally besides clothing made fifty dollars in money

The Ladies have met for this purpose at the following places Bloomington, Mountain Covington, Clopton and Mt Zion. The women love the soldiers and they will prove that they do by their labours, before very long, Captain Hills Company left last Thursday, they were sorry to leave, but if all reports are true the people that lived near Clopton was glad. They left a large supply of jugs & bottles, some person brought Rhodes a hamper basket of flasks, & said they would not be missed from there. They only drunk ten barrels of whisky (according to reports) besides a daily jug & bottle supply, (wonder what they will do now for a dram

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Gridley - I will tell you just how I feel about you more than any of the Confederate soldiers - but for my life I cannot see much advantage in

have got well, or how sick you might be again this time
evening, but good bye for the present

Marsh Elmore came by to tell us goodbye. he was all so sorry. None that I've seen leave appeared so much affected he could not say anything, but with his soldier handkerchief to his face all saturated with tears he shook hands and took his departure

I then thought that if Satan was to get Old Lincoln for a whole eternity he could not more than repay him for all the suffering sorrow & distress that he has been the means of bringing on the people of both North & South by waging this unjust & unholy war.

Last sabbath we heard that you was all at Columbus & I do believe [illegible] [illegible] done to hear it although you was no nearer home but because it is thought to be a more healthy country, not so low & damp as Missouri. It is the opinion of some that we will lose both Missouri & Kentucky, but I hope not though it would be much better if they are so divided & the Union party the strongest to just quietly withdraw without making such a great sacrifice of precious lives. and continue for those states that are united

How do you all feel on neutrality soil? How much better for Kentucky to have gone with us at first. her neutral position will only cause her to be the battle ground.

Once I did not think we would be invaded, but now I think

Marsh Elmore came by to tell us goodbye. he was all so sorry. None that I've seen leave appeared so much affected he could not say anything. but with his soldier handkerchief to his face all saturated with tears he shook hands and took his departure

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Last sabbath ~~that~~ we heard that you was all at Columbus & I do believe I was sincerely glad to hear it although you was no nearer home but because it is thought to be a more healthy country, not so low & damp as Missouri. It is the opinion of some that we will lose both Missouri & Kentucky but I hope not though it would be much better if they are so divided & the Union party the strongest to just quietly withdraw without making such a great sacrifice of precious lives. and continue for those States that are united. How do you all feel on neutrality deal? How much better for Kentucky to have gone with us at first. her neutral position will only cause her to be the battle ground.

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Missing

CONTINUATION OF LETTER WRITTEN BY MATTIE SIMPSON LYNN TO H.M. LYNN ON AUGUST 25, 1861

Communciations was stooped between Richmond & Mannassas
though she was denied that priviledge, yet she can tell us
some very interesting stories about her troubles & Virginia.
Vindie has a great deal to say about her wealthy
widower beau that she caught at the springs
of Mr. Tucker, lives near Somerville, only one child
& she is an accomplished lady.
She has carried me through the catechism about
Charlie & all the rest of you. She was inclined to
talk over our past pleasures, our walk to the graveyard
that Saturday evening, then to church that night, our fishing
party, our Blomington trip, the exibition evening & night
& every other little pleasant word or occurance that we
remembered so well & are ever fresh in memory.
How then I must tell her how Grid looked and what he said.
I commenced with your arrival on Saturday evening & closed
with your departure on Wednesday.
Sunday night we came very near not going to sleep at all
& last night we was not much better and this morning
Mrs. Miller sent for her & we was sorry to part for we had
not or more than made a good beginning.
Vindie was very much surprised when I told her

Charlie had never rec'd but one letter from her.
Said she had written often to him & also to me & I know
no letter came for me save one that she penned at Richmond.
Bettie Payne & Pomp also staid with us Sunday night.
Pomp was so kind as to be my escort to church. I wished
then that it was you, how differently I should have felt.
Mr. Cummins & Mr. Ninford slso took supper with us that
evening. And I must tell you something little funny.
The laughter and said that Dr. Carr had ruined him in
preaching the very sermons that he had prepared for the occasion
that was a little singular that they should both
selected the same text.
Mr. Winford preached offtened & some of his old sermons
& comforted himself by saying Dr. Carr done justice to
both sermons, was more capable of doing so than he was.
The ladies of this country are actively & earnestly engaged now in
the soldiers cause. A few days ago the ladies of Potersville
& surrounding Vicinity met at our church & organized under
the name of Southern Confederacy Aid Society. Mrs. McDill

[25 Aug 1861]

was elected President, MRs. Lou Banks, Vice-President, Miss Em Wright, Secretary, Mrs. Hindman, treasury. Betty D. & Beff with others beggars. Eliza Simington wrote out the resolutions & brought them

before the society. The President arose & said she would sustain the motion that these resolutions be received & the seconded the motion herself. Look out for I think our aid society will be in the papers for it ought to be for it would be so interesting & satifying to all other ladies(laugh just as much as you please but don't for your life tell it).
They have already enough to fill the boxes, one for well soldiers & the other for the hospital.
Have also had a similar meeting at Salem Church.
Mr. Wilson presided over theirs; they gave very liberally beside clothing, made fifty dollars in money.
The ladies have met for this purpose at the following places; Bloomington, Mountain, Covington, Clopton and Mt. Zion. The women love the soldiers and they will prove that they do by their labours before very long.
Captain Hill's company left last thursday. They was sorry to leave, but if all reports are true the people that lived near Clopton was glad. They left a large supply of jugs & bottles. Some person brought Rhodes a hamper basket of flasks & said they would not be missed from there.
They only drank ten barrels of whisky according to reports besides a daily jug & bootle supply. Wonder what they will do now for a drink.

Marsh Elmore came by to tell us goodbye. We was all so sorry.
None that i've seen leave appeared so much affected. He could not say anything, but with his soldier hankerchief to his face all saturated with tears; he shook hands and took his departure.
I then thought if satan was to get old Lincoln for a whole eternity, he could not more than repay him for all the suffering. sorrow & distress that he has been the means of bringing on the people of both North & South by waging this unjust & unholy war.
Last Sabbath we heard that you was at Columbus & I do believe it revived some to hear it, although you was no nearer home, but because it is thought to be a more healthy country not so low & damp as Missouri. It is the opinion od some that we will lose both Missouri & Kentucky but I hope not though it would be much better if they are so divided & the union party the stongest to just quietly withdraw without making such a great sacrafice of precious lives and contend for those states that are united.
How do you all feel on neutrality soil? How much better

[25 Aug. 1861]

for Kentucky to have gone with us at first, Her neutral position
will only cause her to be the battleground.
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Gridley: I will tell you just How I feel about you
& all of the boys. -----------& move
more than any of the confederate soldiers, but
perhaps them that know best can see what is for the best.
For my life I cannot see much advantage in
pursing such a course.

Saturday: I sit and wonder this evening how you are;
if you have got well or how sick you might be again this time.
But I hope you are better & not sick at all this evening. But, Good bye for the present.

Page(s)

Missing

indeed, a laborious job as there was but few of us to do it. It was rumored there that one of Capt. John's company had fallen off the cars somewhere between Brownsville and Memphis it is probable that it is so He is missing and was known to be drinking pretty freely that night I saw Charlie while we were loading but had no time to have any conversation with him I think he is improving I hope he will soon be with us.

We left Memphis about three oclock and passed Randolph about twelve in the night, but it was so dark I could see nothing We landed at Tiptonville some fifteen miles below here, and took on all our regiment. It [illegible] had just about twenty minutes before we got there We reached here about five oclock on the afternoon of Saturday Although we were considerably crowded and the boat very heavily loaded, this part of our trip was very pleasant compared with the rest. I had a fine nights rest on the boat, I took my blanket around me and lay down on hurricane deck and slept as soundly and sweetly as I ever did in my life If peace was declared and I had select company I think I would enjoy a steamboat tour very much I shall never enjoy one though until I have the satisfaction of knowing the one and the privilige of making the other

It is said there are seventeen regiments here. There may be that many, and there may be twice that number, but I have no knowledge of more than eight or ten and I was around a good deal yesterday

They are fortifying ^here They have about two hundred negros at work and about fifty Irishmen. Some eight or ten spies are hard ^at work. They were taken by our cavalry. They are out as scouts and picket guards all the time. They were in eight miles of Cairo last Saturday and burnt down a bridge about two hundred yards long. It is reported that Bird's Point is evacuated, and that the troops have retired to Cape Girardeau, which is about forty five miles from here. Much is said about our advancing, but I think the probabilities are that we will stay at least for a short time. We should make our attacks as quick as possible while the enemy is weak and dispirited on account of their terrible defeat at Manassas, but for us to march now, while it is so excessively hot, it would endanger the lives [of] our own troops. Gen Cheatham has gone out about two miles from the river to find a suitable place for encampment. That would seem like we were going to stay here a little while at least. Gen Polk & Gov Jackson are both here.

I wrote the foregoing without knowing whether I could send it off or not. I have not learned how we will get our letter yet. They will come from Memphis, if they can come that far. Try and send me one.

I am very anxious to hear from you and hope to hear from you very often, but I am afraid the chance is going to be very bad. Give my love to all the friends. My hearts best wishes to you. Good by once more

Yours most devotedly "Gridly"
J

CONTINUATION OF LETTER WRITTEN BY H.M. LYNN BETWEEN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 1861.

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to have any conservation with him. I think he is im-
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Randolph about twelve in the night, but it was so
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about fifteen miles below here and took on all our reg-
ments. Stephens had just about twenty minutes before we
got there. There we reached here about five o'clock on the
afternoon of Saturday. Although we were considerably
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trip was very pleasant compared with the rest. I had a
fine nights rest on the boat. I took my blanket
about me and lay down on hurricane deck and
slept as soundly and sweetly as I ever did in my life.
If peace was declared and I had select company, I
think I would enjoy a steamboat tour very much.
I shall never enjoy one though until I have the satis-
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[Aug-Sept. 1861]

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I am very anxious to hear from you and hope to hear from you very often, but I am afraid the advance is going to be very bad. Give my love to all the friends. My heart best wishes to you. Goodbye once more.

Your most devotely
"Gridly"

Columbus, Ky.
Sept 9th 1861

My Dear Mattie

Your welcome letter of the 25th Ult. came to hand last Friday. I had begun to think it was a long time between feasts. You will perhaps begin to think I am getting very slow, but you will not think hard when I tell you I have been sick and unable to write a great part of the time I have been unwell for about ten days. I am better today. Your letter cheered me very much, but could not make me well.

We left New Madrid last Tuesday and got to this place Thursday night. We came by a steamboat to Hickman, and from thence to this place via Union City by Rail Road. Our troops from N. C. took possession of this place on Wednesday, the day we landed at Hickman. If they had got here a

~~few~~ hours sooner they could have cut off two of the enemy's gunboats They had come down to Hickman, I suppose, to learn something of our movements They anchored and fired upon them Two of our batteries returned the fire and it was not long - fortunately for themselves - until they took up anchor and left for a more congenial clime The shots of both fell short. Nobody was hurt. If they had remained long enough there, our batteries from No 6 would have cut off their retreat Our forces are coming in very fast There is, I suppose from what they say about twenty thousand in all Gen Jeff Thompson is here with about three thousand of his troops. Yesterday was quite a busy day A little after sunrise one of our batteries let loose our "dogs of war" upon one of the enemy's gunboats Some ten or twelve shots were exchanged which ended as did the firing at Hickman

Old Jeff Thompson crossed the river with his men and went to ~~relieve~~ protect some five hundred men and some stores that he had coming to this place. He will return, I suppose, as soon as he comes up with them. Our boys are all ready to meet the Yankees whenever they come. If they will wait a few days longer, I think with the justness of our cause and the natural advantages of the place, we could stand against the whole world combined. Nature has furnished us with a better fortification than we could have made in twelve months There is a high hill which extends all around the place.

I would like to write more but I cannot at present. You said I must do most of the writing. I hope it may not be so, just for my sake Write often and risk their coming. They tell us that our letters go free I would like to know if they do Your letters will come, no matter where we go,

if you only direct them to me, Company
H. 9th Reg't Tenn. Vol. Care of the
Quarter-Master. If you know the
name of the place you can put it on
too, but they will come without it. They
come through the Quarter-Master at
Memphis. Excuse me for the present
"Write soon" Give my love to all, but reserve as
much as you want for yourself.

Yours most devotedly
H. M. Lynn,

Columbus, Ky
Sept. 9, 1861

My dear Mattie:

Your welcome letter of the 25th August came to hand last Friday. I had begun to think it was a long time between feasts. You will perhaps begin to think I am geting very slow, but you will not think hard when I tell you I have been sick and unable to write a great part of the time. I have been unwell for about ten days. I am better today. Your letter cheered me very much, but could not make me well
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If you only direct them to me, Company C, 9th Reg't Tenn. Vol. care of the quartermaster. If you know the name of place you can put it on too, but they will come without it. They then come through the quartermaster at Memphis. Excuse me for the present write soon, give my love to all, but reserve as much as you want for yourself.

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H.M Lynn

Page(s)

Missing

I will send this by Mr Cumins. J. W. Payne
is sick and has been for some time
5 He is trying to get a furlough

a very severe loss by being in the war;
for that a certain Home Guard was
about ^to^ claim a part his property. After
he had an explination he told me
to tell you to let him go ahead ^building^ for
he would not interfere with any of
the soldier's arrangements, and that he
had been expecting something of the
kind for some time. The same sends
his regards to you ^all^ and especially to
Miss Nettie V.

You expressed a wish that I and
all the boys would come home Crist-
mas. I should like very much to
do so, and shall mak every effort
to get home then, but there will be
so many applying for furloughs at
that time that it will be impossible
for all to get them and I fear I
may be among those unfortunate ones
who fail. I have, although the day is

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I will send this by Mr Cumins. J. W. Payne
is sick and has been for some time.
He is trying to get a furlough

yet far distant, laid claim to one.
You have indeed my most sincere thanks for the package you sent me. You are a dear, good, little creature - always studying and doing something to make me comfortable and happy. Your devotion can only be repaid by a life of love and servitude. I hope I shall never prove ungrateful. You tell me you intend knitting me a pair of gloves and probably a neck comfort. (nuby). I do not wish to be dictatorial but I have a nice warm pair of mittens sent to me by Mother, and I fear "them little fingers" would weary before you are through. Thanks and love to you!
I delivered those socks and letters as you directed. I know you would have been amused if you could have seen Glad. I handed them to him without a word & they were soon stored away in his knapsack, but there was a "Hawks eye" somewhere

and it was not long before the whole mess was inquiring of him about the socks — if he did not get a pair, who they were from &c. They said not a word to your humble servant, for they have long since given him as beyond all redemption. We sometimes sing for Gbads:

"A country lad is my degree,
And few there be that ken me O,
But what care I how few they be —
I'm welcome to my Nannie O."

You can sing it to Jinnie if you don't let her know where it came from.

Charlie has just passed and asked me if was writing to my "gourdvine" and told me that he and his lady had a big quarrel. I wanted to know what it was about, when he said it was about nothing and only to have the fun of making it up again, and an opportunity of telling how much they loved each other. Queer fun I think

Mr Jno Pifer of Hills cavalry died yesterday morning and was sent home last night

Oct 20th

Mr. Cumins came up this morning and preached for us today and will preach again for us tonight The day has passed off very pleasantly It has seemed more like sabbath than any day I have spent for some time.
There is nothing of interest here since I wrote you last Some of our cavalry over in Missouri had a little tilt with the enemy on the 14th, but it amounted to very little
There is many rumors in camp as to what we are going to do. — Many of them very contradictory — one that we are going to leave in a few days, then again that we are going to be stationed here. We will know I suppose when it comes but not before.
Mr C. said today that he was going down to Portersville Wednesday. I wonder what for,
My regards to all friends Most affectionately
Yours "Gridley"

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CONTINUATION OF LETTER WRITTEN OCTOBER, 1861 BY H. M. LYNN

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[Oct. 1861]

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[Oct 1861]

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I will send this by Mr. Cummins. T.W. Payne
is sick and has been for some time.
He is trying to get a furlough.
Mr. Jno Pipkin of Hills
Cavalry died yesterday morning and
was sent home last night.

Columbus

railroads [illegible]
chain of [illegible]works and rifle-pits. There [illegible]
two small fortifications along the R. R. between
those hills and the depot. The road itself will
answer for the protection of infantry in case
the enemy should outflank us and come on
us in that way. We have three Gunboats here
from New Orleans and it is reported that
the Turtle and a floating battery of 28
guns will be here soon. If they were here
I think we might tell the Yankees to come
ahead we are ready. We have been reinforced
by four or five regiments. I think I can
say safely that we can hold the place now
against an assault of 100 000 men And
if our Generals elsewhere are worth anything they
can relieve us before they could take us by
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to day and tells they have all been scared for
their lives expecting us all up there ever since
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have rec'd orders to go into winterquarters &
are all busy building little log houses or
digging holes in the hill Our regt has
received orders and are all at work ex-
cept our Company and Capt Beauforts of
Troy. Ours and this has been detailed for
the last two weeks to guard the magazine
and are not with the regt now We do not
know whether we will have to remain at
this post or go back to the regt. I have
been detailed work in the Labratory every
day and consequently have no time to write
now only at night As it is getting late
you must excuse your Gridley for the present
Charlie told me to tell you he sympathises very
much with the Home Guards, but he would
like to turn up his thumb at some of them
just about now Give my regards to Mindie,
Lois and the family.

Yours most devotedly
Gridley

P. S. John McC. Glad. Wm McC
and Leroy Smith have all been unwell
but are all mending

8 5 9 1

LETTER WRITTEN BETWEEN OCTOBER & NOV. 1861
Columbus, Ky.

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chain of breastworks and rifle pits. There is no small fortifications along the r.r. between those hills and the depot. The road itself will answer for the protection of infantry in case the enemy should outflank us and come on us in that way. We have three gunboats here from New Orleans and it is reported that the Turtle and a floating batery of 26 guns will be here soon. If they were here I think we might tell the Yankees to come ahead, we are ready. We have been reinforced by four or five regiments. I think I can say safely that we can hold the place now against an assault of 100,000 men. And if our generals elsewhere are worth anything, they will relieve us before they could take us by seige. We have provision enough to last us three or four months. Some apprehend a fight before long. It is founded in the report and similar ones which you mentioned in your letter. Every few days a deserter or two comes in and tells all such stories. The one you mentioned came first from one of them. One come in today and tells they have all been saved for their lives expecting us all up there ever since our gunboats came here and that there is not more than 15000 men there if that and that most of them have been sent to protect St. Louis against Price & McCullouck.

-----. The whole camp is gay and as a lot of schoolboys. Some of the regt. have rec'd orders to go into winter quarters & are all busy building little log houses or digging holes in the hill. Our reg't has received orders and are all at work except our company and Capt. Bauforts of Troy. Ours and his has been detailed for the last two weeks to guard the magazines

[Oct - Nov 1861]

and are not with the reg't now. We do not know whether we will have to remain at this post or go back to the reg't. I have been detailed work in the labratory every day and consequently have no time to write now, only at night. As it is getting late, you must excuse your Gridley for the present. Charlie told me to tell you he sympothises very much with the Home Guards, but he would like to turn up his thump at some of them just about now. Give my regards to Windie, Lois ant the family.

Yours most devotley
Gridley

P.S. Johnson, M.C. Glad, Wm McD, and Leroy Smith have all been unwell, but are all mending.

Jefferson Tenn
Nov 26th/61

My Dear Gridley,

A melancholy sadness pervades my mind when I adress you whom I love so devotedly and yet hope to see again. But the thought will rise perhaps I never may. For now I realize and feel the great dangers that you are exposed to more than I ever have.

When I think of the battle of the 7th Inst. I feel that I have great reason to be thankful. For why was you preserved whilst others were slain who were near and dear to others as you are to me.

When I first heard of the battle I heard correctly about it and that your Regt was not engaged — The news surprised me some and excited me more than any news I've ever heard since the war began.

If I had known you was in so much danger on that day I should have been very unhappy. Now I think it is best for one that remain in ignorance until. Suspense is bad enough but reality is or must be worse.

I recd your kind and interesting letter of the [illegible] last thursday. I never was so anxious to hear from you or rather to read a letter from you for I felt assured that you could tell me about the battle and so you realized my expectations. Whilst I read of those incidents and heart rending scenes the tears almost dimmed my eyes and the desire of my heart was Oh! that this unnatural and unrighteous war would cease.

For it is awful to think that men of the same nation professing the same religion, brother and old friends all are now arrayed against each

other in deadly conflict. There will be many a tear shed upon the battle field, over the corpses of beloved brothers, or old friends.
I was so anxious to hear Mr Ellis talk that I had to go to see him, he and the family told me many interesting things about the battle (and all of you soldiers) Almost every one here regards it a very dear bought victory for us.
Mr H. Thomason thought he was in another battle on friday night after he got home, it thundered very heavy, and he almost jumped out of the bed Mrs Th inquired what was the matter he replied they are fighting again.
Last friday was observed as a day of thanksgiving fasting and prayer by almost all of the whites and part of the negroes. We all attended Salem the house was crowded equal to a communion season and Mr Wilson preached us a most excellent sermon at the close of it there was an hour spent in prayer and praise & reading of the scriptures.
John Strong is quite sick has called in Dr Dickson.
John Wly. Payne is still sick I dont know whether he is bad sick or not
Dr Paynes eyes are very sore again, Jane Strong is improving can sit up a part of the time. Grandmother Thompson is gradually getting weaker, there is but little hope of her ever recovering
I recd two letters from Emelie fast day, she was well but said she was almost crazy when she heard of the battle for she could not hear who was engaged in it, she laid all of the blame on Pillow said she could give his old head a good rolling for his contrariness in not telegraphing, she says they have 160 of the wounded there.
Mr H. Smith tried to plague me fast day first asked me the news said he thought I ought to be posted, when I had a gay dashing Correspondent in the army.

He then remarked that the young ladies of this neighborhood had leagued together, had monopolized Captain Wood's company and would all marry together. I told him I feared we would be disappointed, for there might a bombshell break up our arrangements yet.
He thought not, the prayers of the women would be the means of preserving you one and all. I love to hear a smart or intelligent man talk, but Mr Smith is too fast for me I will acknowledge.
Yesterday Lois and I spent with your Aunt Margret, we agreed to meet there just to have a long chat about Archy & Tridaly.
I can not tell what we said for it would take more paper than I have at present.
Monday the report come that there was a battle commenced at Columbus on Saturday and the yankees then had possession of the town. Brother Sam brought the news from Peter. I never had anything to give me such a shock just for a few moments, you was my first thought, and next our state would be invaded. But after a few moments reflection I could not think was true yet it made me gloomy & sad. I had intended to write to you that night, but because of my feelings deferred it thinking I would know the truth against to night. I have a letter for Charlie that was sent to me enclosed in my letter, I kept it for the same reason, tell him he must not censure me if his news is old for I knew if Columbus was taken one and all of you was either prisoners or corpses.
This evening another report come of fifty thousand being at Cairo and the same number at Paducah that would march down on Columbus soon
I hope [illegible] many will not come, I fear they will be too strong for our force thought I [illegible]t not to doubt, For if God be for us, they cannot gain the ascendency

Jim Meda or Shakspeare, and Johnson McCain called and took dinner with us last week we had a pleasant time conversing Jimmie Dickson came saturday night and remained until monday morning it will perhaps be his last visit as they wish to get off soon they have to uniform themselves, them that can, and get guns in the country, and they are scarce.. they have so many hindrances, that they progress very slowly" Their uniform is brown jeans trimmed with black Have named their Co. The Sons of Liberty

Pa met with Cousin Roland week before last in Memphis, he was taken from Columbus to the Memphis Hospital where he lay two weeks when his father came after him and carried him home where he remained until able to return and was on his way to Bowling Green when pa seen him.

Well Gridley it is now getting late and I must close. Jimmie has been writing to Sloan but has quit for to night and thinks I ought too. Write to me whenever you can for the time appears long if I do [not] hear from you often do not think I'm unreasonable But be charitable. Bettie, L. sends love to you she is kind is sitting up with us for company.

Much love for you an affectionate
Good night from your Mattie

Idelewild, Tenn
Nov 20th/61

My dear Gridley:

A melancholy soolness pervades my mind when I adress you whom I love devotely and yet hope to see again, but the thought will rise perhaps forever more For now I realize and feel the great danger that you are exposed to more than I ever have.

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For it is awful to think that men of the same nation professing the same religion, brother and old friends, all are now arrayed against each other in deadly conflict. There will be many a tear shed upon the battlefields over the corpses of the beloved brothers and old friends.

I was so anxious to hear Mr. Elmore talk that I had to go to see him. He and the family told me many interesting things about the battle and all of you soldiers.

Almost everyone here regards it a very dear bought victory for us.

Mr. H. Thrushman thought he was in another battle on Friday night after he got home, it thundered very loud and he almost jumped out of the bed. Mrs. H. inquired what was the matter. He replied, they are fighting again.

Last Friday was observed as a day of thanksgiving fasting in prayer by almost all of the white folks and part of the negroes. We all attended Salem, the house was crowded equal to a communion season and Mr. Wilson preached us a most excellent sermon, at the close of it, there was an hour spent in prayer and praise and reading of the scriptures.

John Strong is quite sick has called in Dr. Dixon.

John _____Payne is still sick, I don't know whether he is or not how sick.

Mr. Payne's eyes are very sore again. Jane Strong is improving.

[20 Nov 1861]

Can sit up a part of the time. Grandmother Thompson is gradually getting weaker. There is but little hope of her every recovering. I recd two letters from Gindie Fost-alay, she was well but said she was almost crazy when she heard of the battle for she could not hear who was engaged in it. She laid all of the blame on Pillow. Said she could give his old head a good knocking for his contrarioness and not telegraphing. She says they have a 160 of the wounded there. Mr. H. Smith tried to plow one fast day, first asked me the news said he thought I ought to be posted when I had a good war correspondent in the army.

He then remarked that the young ladies of this neighborhood had ___ together had monopolized Captain Wood's company and would all marry together. I told him I feared he would be disappointed for there might a bombshell break up our arrangements yet.
The thought , not the prayers, of the women would be the means of preserving you one and all. I love to hear the smart or intelligent man talk, but Mr. Smith is too fast for one. I will acknowledge.
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I hope many will not come. I feel they will be too strong for our force. Thought tonight not to doubt for if God be for us they can not gain the ascendency.

Jim Moore or Shakespeareand Johnson McAnd called and took dinner with us last week. We had a pleasant time conversing.
Jimmie Dickson came Saturday night and remained until Monday morning. It will perhaps be his last visit as they wish to get off soon.
They have to uniform themselves, when they can, and yet guns in the county and they are scarce. They have so many hindrances that they

[20 Nov. 1861]

progress very slowly. Their uniform is brown, jeans trimmed with black have named their co. The Sons of Liberty.

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Much love for you and affectionate
good night from your Mattie

#5029-z
H. M. LYNN PAPERS

1862

Folder 2 of 5

Arazona. Tenn
Jan. 12th/62

Dearest Gridley

This is sabbath morning and I am at brother Sam's and have no church to attend and thought I would spend a short time in talking with you, for as I shall think of you often and I cannot feel that it will be wrong to pen a few of my thoughts. I recd your last long letter last thursday the perusal of it afforded me a world of pleasure, your "nonsense" as you termed it, is very agreeable to me and has made me feel quite happy. Your love is a theme which I can never weary of, and which can never become an "old song". And dont expect that I intended any hint for I never thought of such when I said what I did. Just was thinking of myself and felt a little ashamed of some past letters. But this passion called Love, I've learned by experience is hard to control I sometimes resolve that it shall not wield such power but such resolutions are unavailable And, I am compelled to confess that you are indeed the beloved of my soul.

I am living in the world surrounded by those that I am under obligations to. I feel my duties and try to cheerfully perform them all. yet I sometimes fail. and lose sight of all these things. and seem only to think of you. nevertheless. I strive to conceal my feelings and often wear a smiling countenance with a sore heart. I do so for the happiness of those around me and for several other reasons. the chief one is because I know that few can realize my feelings and very few can sympathize. I often think as you say you do. that my sacrafice is very great. though I scarcely ever feel disposed to murmur. for it is the lot of many very many. who are much more deserving than unworthy me. And when I contrast your sacrafice with mine. I then think I ought never to murmur for I have yet a peaceful home and many privileges which I ought to be thankful for which you do not enjoy. but the reverse is your portion.

And though you are so surrounded with wickedness yet I hope you have put on the whole armour of God and through his grace you may be able to stand as a good and faithful soldier of the cross against the wiles of the enemy of souls

I heard that John McKnight was home sick. I would like to see him and hear him talk, but dont much expect he will call on us.
I sent a letter and paper by John Wilkins. I think he will make a noble soldier after some experience.
Two of Browder's company are home now, Pomp & J. D. they dined with us last sabbath, camp life has improved them some in appearance.
Bruce Hill has been home too. he has been quite fortunate much against the will of some of his company First Lieut. in their company.
Linda spent a night and day with one week before last. she was very cheerful and well. the war does not appear to affect her very much. she wished me to remember respects to you.
Told me they had quite a gay and merry christmas in Memphis and she enjoyed herself so much that she only thought of past pleasures a few times during the week
But a visit to Idlewilde brought old scenes and pleasures fresh to memory.
I heard the other day that seventy of Wood's Company had accepted of the sixty days furlough and reenlisted for the war. and I wondered

who that seventy never since that news Come. I've heard two young ladies say, they believed they would apply for a discharge from the army. for 'twas too long for them to enlist

"Well. I must tell you that I am inclined to believe that a certain nice clever, home guard has some idea of paying his kind attentions to sister Bettie. D. though I may be mistaken.

"Well. Gridley. I sincerely hope you will get home. not so much from selfish motives though. I do wish to see you yet—I think you would enjoy a visit home.

It appears like a long long time since I seen you.

I must stop for this time. excuse brevity again perhaps I can write you a long letter next time If you write this week you can address the letter to Brother Sam's office. as I expect to stay here for several days. so goodbye

As ever yours devotedly Mattie

Gridley if you cannot write this week, don't direct to Arazona next week.

Aragona, Tenn
Jan 12th/62

Dearest Gridley:

This is sabbath morning and I am at brother Sam's and have no church to attend and thought I would spend a short time in talking with you, for as I shall think of you often and I cannot feel that it will be wrong to pen a few of any thoughts. I rec'd your last letter last thursday, the perusual of it afforded me a world of pleasure. Your nonsense as you term it, is very agreeable to me and has made me feel quite happy. Your love is a theme which I can never weary of and which can never become an "old song". And don't spect that I intended any hint for I never thought of such when I said what I did, just was thinking of myself and felt a little ashamed of some past letters...But this passion called love Ive learned by experience is hard to control I sometimes resolve that it shall not yield such powers but such resolutions are unavailable And I am compelled to confess that you are indeed the beloved of my soul.

I am living in the world surrounded by those that I am under obligation to. I feel my duties are try to cheerfully perform them all. Yet I sometimes fail and lose sight of all these things and seem only to think of you; nevertheless I strive to conceal my feelings and often their a smiling countenance with a sad heart. I do so for the happiness of those around me and for several other reasons, the chief one is because I know that my sacrafice is very great, thoughI scarcely ever feel disposed to murmur, for it is the lot of many very many who are much more deserving than unworthy me. And when I contrast your sacrafice with mine, I then think I ought never to murmur for I have yet a peaceful home and many priviledges which I ought to be thankful for which you do not enjoy, but the reverse is your portions and though you are so surrounded with wickedness yet I hope you have put on the whole armour of God and through his grace you may be able to stand as a good and faithful soldier of the cross

[12 Jan. 1861]

against the wiles of the enemy souls

I heard that John McKnight was home sick. I would
like to see him and hear him talk, but don't much
expect he will call on us.
I sent a letter and paper by John Wilkins. I think
he will make a noble soldier after some experience.
Two of Brouder's company are home now, Pomp & J.D.
They dined with us last sabboth, camp life has
improved them some in apperance.
Bruce Hll has been home too, he has been quite
fortunate much against the will of some of his company.
First Lieut in the company.
Linda spent a night with me week before
last. She was very cheerful and well. The war does
not appear to affect her very much, she wished
me to remember respects to you.
Told me she had quite a gay and merry Christmas
in Memphis and she enjoyed herself so much that she
only thought of past pleasures a few times during the week
But a visit to Idelwild brought old scenes and
pleasures fresh to memory.
I heard the other day that seventy of Wood's
company had acepted of the sixty days furlough
and re enlisted for the war and I wondered

who that seventy were. Since that news came We
heard two young ladies say they believed they would apply
for a discharged from the army for thats too long for them to enlist.
Well I must tell you I am inclined to believe
that a certain nice clever home guard has some idea
of paying his kind attentions to sister Bettie. D.
though I may be mistaken.
Well, Gridley, I sincerely hope you will get home, not
so much from selfish motives though I do wish to see you.
Yet I think you would enjoy a visit home.
It appears like a long long time since I seen yoy.
I must stop for this time. excuse brevity again
perhaps I can write this week. you can address the letter
to Brother Sam office, as I expect to stay here
for several days. So goodbye

as ever your devotedly Mattie

Gridley if you cannot write this week, don't direct
to Aragona next week.

Columbus Ky.
Jan 23rd 1862.

My Dear Mattie

Although it is but four days since I wrote to you I am not willing for such a good opportunity of sending a letter to you to pass unimproved, still you must not expect me to tell you anything new. I am be[illegible] to long for a letter from you aga[illegible] I sent my last by old Mr Page and am anxious to hear whether you got it or not. R. P. gave it and one of his own to him and told him to hand them to the persons addressed or [illegible] in the office which he said [illegible] not get th[illegible] to understand at first and he was fearful he did not at last. I guess it will all be right.

Jno Mc has returned to camp and is looking much better than when he left. J. T. Thompson came with him

He is quite jovial and tells me all the good things about you he can. He succeeded in plaguing me about you which I can say is the first that it has been done since I came out. I can not tell you how it was, but I assure you it was not by any fair means. He tells us a good deal about a young tanner; and also some funny stories about Gladney. He s[illegible] has not been to see the adm[illegible] Myrandas yet. I wonder if it is so.

I left my boarding house yesterday and came back to the company to stay. I will continue to work though where I was. I have alread[illegible] you something of the character [illegible] men I had to associate with there [illegible] witnessed their licentiousness and high-handed wickedness as long as I could stand it. I feel myself fortunate in leaving when I did. For

if I had been there last night I
would have had to be a witness against
some of them in a case of theft.
Three of them stole several large boxes
of merchandise consisting principally
of brandy, wine, &c. They soon got
drunk on their spoils and were caught
by the police in the act of opening some
of the boxes One of them was in the
sa[illegible] where I had had to stay. They are
now [illegible] the Guard House where they
should have been long before. More
of them are no better than those that
were caught although they had noth-
ing to do with last nights work as it
[illegible]. Although they treated me
[illegible] as kindly as I could wish
while I stayed in the house. I hope they
may all meet their reward.

The excitement here, occasioned by the
floating rumors, has all subsided as
they were all illfounded.

I am beginning to hope that our government will soon be recognized, and that we may never have a battle here, nor many elsewhere. However I am afraid to let my hope become very strong.

The proposition of Congress for the reinlistment of twelve months troops for two years has been before some of the regiments here and I understand that a great many in some of them are accepting it. It has not been [illegible] our regiment yet. I am determined [illegible] to reinlist now. It will depend upon circumstances when my time is out. I wish to remain at home awhile then if I live. I have no idea how many of our boys will reinlist. I think [illegible] triatism of some of them at [illegible] considerably cooled. Write soon, [illegible]

My affectionate regards to all. My purest and dearest love to yourself.

Yours in the strongest bonds of affection

H. M. L.

Columbus, Ky.
Jan. 23rd, 1862

My dear Mattie:

Although it is but four days since I wrote to you I am not willing for such a good opportunity of sending a letter to you to pass unimproved. Still you must not expect me to tell you anything new. I am be---- to long for a letter from you again. I sent my last by old Mr. Page and am anxious to hear whether you got it or not. R.P. gave it and one of his pwn to him and told him tohand them to the persons addressed or ----------------in the office which he said -----not get him to understand at first and he was fearful he did not at last. I quess it will all be right. Jno Mc has returned to camp and is looking much better than when he left. J.d. Thompson came with him.

He is quite jovial and tells me all the good things about you he can. He suceeded in plaguing me about you which I can say is the first, that it has been done since I came out. I can not tell you how it was, but I assure you it was not by any fair means. He tells us a good deal about a young tanner; and also some funny tales about Gladney. He says he has not been to see ---- myranda yet. I wonder if it is so. I left my boarding house yesterday and came back to the company to stay. I will continue to work though where I was. I have already---------- you something of the charecter------- men I had to associate with there. I witness their bicentiousness and high handed wickedness as long as I

[23 Jan. 1862]

could stand it. I feel myself fortunate in leaving when I did, for

if I had been there last night, I would have had to be a witness against some of them in a case of theft. Three of them stole several large boxes of merchandise consisting principally of brandy, wine ect. They soon got drunk on their spirits and were caught by the police in the act of opening some of the boxes. One of them was in the same house where I had to stay. They are now in the guard house where they should have been long before. More of them are no better than those that were caught, although they had nothing to do with last night work as it ------. Although they treated me ------ so kindly as I could wish where I stayed in the house. I hope they may all meet their rewards.
The excitement here ocasioned by the floating rumors has all subsided as they were all illfounded.

I am beginning to hope that our goverment will soon be reorganized and that we may never have a battle here, nor many elsewhere. However I am afraid to let my hope become very strong. The proposition of Congress for the reinlistment of twelve months troop for two years has been before some of the regiments here and I understand that a great many in some of them are accepting it. It has not been before our regiment yet. I am determined not to reinlist now; it will depend upon circumstances when my time is out. I wish to remain at home awhile, then if I live. I have no idea how many of "our boys" will reinlist. I think patriotism of some of them at least has considerably cooled. Write soon, Mattie.

[23 Jan. 1862]

My affectionate regards to all. My purest
and dearest love to yourself.

Yours in the strongest bonds of affection

H.M.L.

Home Sabbath evening
May 1st/62

My Dear Husband;

I will spend a few moments of this quiet evening in penning a few words knowing that a line from me [illegible] would be some comfort to you. [illegible] is [illegible] some [illegible] from the neighborhood. I remember[illegible] my promise to you.
Last week [illegible] father long [illegible] lonely sad feeling was often [illegible]. though I [illegible] passed through much better than I expected. and I feel truly thankful. that I have thus far been enabled to bear your absence with some degree of fortitude
but as long as your absence so long will my trial last. so ever remember me in your petitions for I feel that I need much grace. to bear me through these trying days and hours of seperation, for now already I find myself often musing. when shall these dark days end and my hearts desire and prayer is for the hastening on of the happy time when wars shall cease and peace again prevail.

I went to [illegible] day school [illegible] the bible you [illegible] for the first time. I felt lonesome going by myself.

Does the boys plague you about getting married

I feel [illegible] to hear from you. to know whether you all made a safe trip. as we heard that you had to go on the freight train. it was so [illegible] you could not get on the other for as you have not been exposed any. I fear it [illegible] give you a cold. perhaps make you sick. [illegible] do you feel? as well as you did [illegible] you left [illegible] tell me all the truth for I would rather know just exactly how your health is. Your Ma came over to see me last friday. brought Eugenia & Lettie with her. her visit done me a great deal of good. I am certainly blest in having the sympathy of two such good Mothers. it is so much comfort to me to know they feel for me. If I get a letter from you this week I am to go to see Ma for she is also wishing to hear from you. They are all well as usual.

Jinnie and Bettie D. got back yesterday evening they had a nice visit. in going [illegible] they went to the hospital that is now established ~~on a small scale~~ near the depot. most of them are Price's men. who are sick with different kinds of diseases. the girls hearts were touched by their sufferings. said the majority of the sick were young boys. There has been quite a number of the sick ~~and~~ soldiers sent out in the country near

I feel anxious to hear from you. to know whether you all made a safe trip. as we heard that you had to go on the freight train. I was sorry you could not get on the other for as you have not been exposed any. I fear it might give you a cold. perhaps make you sick. how do you feel? as well as you did when you left here. tell me all the truth for I would rather know just exactly how your health is. Your Ma came over to see me last friday. brought Lazaras & Matt with her. her visit done me a great deal of good. I am certainly blest in having the sympathy of two such good mothers. it is so much comfort to me to know they feel for me. If I get a letter from you this week I am to go to see Ma for she is also wishing to hear from you. They were all well as usual.

Jimmie and Bettie D. got back yesterday evening they had a nice visit. in going home they went to the Hospital that is now established near the depot, most of them are Price's men. who are sick with different kinds of diseases. the girls hearts were touched by their sufferings. said the majority of the sick were young boys. There has been quite a number of the sick soldiers, sent out in the country rec...

Does the boys plague you about getting married

creek

the railroad. Ebenezer church over beaver

has been turned into a hospital. Country people [illegible] will attend to them better than city folks [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] sent [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] last friday. [illegible] is right sick now [illegible] [illegible] yesterday, thinks he has typhoid fever. [illegible] it might have been the fatigue of his journey that caused fever.

[illegible] came [illegible] with a severe cold which will in all probability make [illegible] sick yet as it is no better to day. [illegible] is [illegible] better I think than she was when you left. The rest of us are well as usual. [illegible] Jeff Thompson with our great gun boats took a [illegible] with the Yankee gun boats yesterday morning as we hear to day the [illegible] [illegible] did [illegible] our loss. We heard the report of the guns and knew it was an engagement by there being such a [illegible] the firing. It made me feel so [illegible] to hear what little I did hear. — It is rumored that there was a seven hours engagement brought on by Price last Thursday at Corinth. If that be true that is only the commencement. for I almost fear to hear from the next battle that is fought there. some fear we will [illegible]

be

[illegible] appear. but something causes me to hope we will [illegible] the battle unless the Federals keep it off until they [illegible] in [illegible] army back of [illegible] if they do that our army is gone.

I often think of the many dangers you [illegible] will be exposed to and worst of all [illegible] I know it is not in my power to screen you from these dangers only in one way. I can pray for you [illegible] to Him who is able to [illegible] [illegible] and those who love you so dearly

[illegible] you [illegible] I [illegible] hand clasped in mine and my head close in her bosom and [illegible] so sure it was [illegible] that [illegible] disappointment was so great so that it made me weep when I fully realized you [illegible] far away sleeping upon your blanket with the [illegible] earth for a bed.. [illegible] living together as husband [illegible] our wife was so short [illegible] that [illegible] sometimes now can hardly realize it as being so. for it often seems more like a pleasant happy dream than a reality. [illegible] I know it is a reality [illegible] I feel it is hard for me to live without [illegible]

[illegible] I can appreciate a loving look [illegible]

[illegible] miss my affectionate [illegible]

[illegible] write often to me while you can for I shall long to hear often. [illegible] Stevenson speaks of going to [illegible] [illegible] if you can. tell how we are getting on, and [illegible] [illegible] hear nothing much from [illegible] now. I have made something like unto a haver sack. perhaps it will answer if you can get no better. if you have one give this to some one that has none. Have you any knapsack did you find your blankets or have you only one?

Pauline? close Mother and sisters join me in much love to you. I remain Yours most affectionately

Mattie Lyon

Keep all this for if any of the boys was to find it they would tease [illegible] some

be

[illegible] appear but something causes me to hope we will [illegible] the battle unless the Federals keep it off until they can bring in an army back of you if they do that our army is [illegible]

I often think of the many dangers you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ill, be exposed to and worst of all [illegible] [illegible] I know it is not in my power to screen you from the many dangers only in one way. I can pray for you [illegible] [illegible] to Him who is able to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] home, and those who love you so dearly

Last night [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] you when I woke [illegible] [illegible] hand clasped in mine and my head close [illegible] [illegible] bosom and was so sure it was [illegible] that my disappointment was so great so that it [illegible] [illegible] weep when I fully realized you [illegible] far away sleeping upon your blanket [illegible] [illegible] earth for a bed. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was so short [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] can hardly realize it as being so, for it often seems more like a pleasant happy dream than a reality [illegible] I know it is a reality [illegible] I [illegible] it is hard for [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] I [illegible] I [illegible] appreciate a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] affectionate [illegible]

[illegible] write often to me [illegible] you [illegible] for I [illegible] long to hear often [illegible] Stevenson speaks of going to [illegible] [illegible] if you [illegible] tell how you are getting on [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] hear nothing much from [illegible] now. I [illegible] [illegible] something like unto a haversack perhaps [illegible] [illegible] if you can get no better. If you have [illegible] [illegible] some one that has none. Have you any knapsack? Did you find your blankets or have you only one? [illegible] close Mother and [illegible] join me in much love to you. I remain Yours most affectionately

Mattie [illegible]

Home Sabbath Evening
May 11th/62

My dear husband:

I will spend a few moments of this quiet evening in penning you a few words knowing that a line from me and home would be some comfor to you and as there are some going from the neighborhood, I remembered my promise to you.

Last week appeared rather long. A lonely sad feeling was often insued. Though we passed through much better than I expected and I feel truly thankful that I have thus far been enabled to bear your absence with some degree of fortitude. But as long as your absence, so long will my trail last. So ever, remember me in your petitions for I feel that I need much grace to bear me through these trying days and hours of seperation. For now, already I find myself often musing, when shall these dark days end and my hearts desire and prayer id for the hastening on of the happy time when war shall cease and peace again prevail.

I feel anxious to hear from you to know whether you all made a safe trip as we heard that you had to go on the freight train. I was sorry you could not get on the other for as you had not been exposed any. I feared it might give you a cold, perhaps make you sick. How do you feel? As well as you did when you left home. Tell me all the truth for I would rather know just exactly how your health is. Your ma came over to see me last friday. Brought Mag and Matt with her. Her visit done me a great deal of good. I am certainly bless in having the sympathy of two such good mothers. It is so much comfort to me to know they feel for me. If I get a letter from you this week I am to go to see ma for she is also wishing to hear from you. They were all well as usual.

Jinnie and Bettie D. got back yesterday evening. They had a nice visit. In going round they went to the hospital that is now established near the depot on a small hill, most of them are Price's men who are sick with different kinds of diseases. The girls hearts here touches by their sufferings said the majority of the sick

[11 May 1862]

were young boys. There has been quite a number
of the sick soldiers sent out in the country near

the railroad. Ebenezer church over Beaver Creek
has been turned into a hospital. Country people
I believe will attend to them better than city folks.
Billie Wilson and Press Simonton were sent home from
Lagrange, got here last Friday. Press is right sick now.
Jim went to see him yesterday; thinks he has typhoid
fever, though it might have been the fatigue of his
journey that caused fever.
Jinnie came home with a severe cold which will in
all probability make her sick, yet as it is no better
to say. Ma is some better I think than she was
when you left. The rest of us are well as usual.
Old Jeff Thompson with our great gun boats took
a short pull with the Yankee gun boats yesterday
morning, so we hear today he crippled and sunk one,
we did not learn our loss. We heard the report of the
guns and knew it was an engagement by there being
such a continueal firing. It made one feel so bad
to hear what little I did hear. It is rumored
that there was a seven hour engagement brought on by
Price last Thursday at Corinth. If that be true that
is only the commencement for I almost fear to hear from the
next battle that is fought there. Some fear we ride

whipped, but something causes me to hope we will be not
unless the Federals keep it, the battle, off until they can bring in
an army back of you, if they do that our army is gone.
I often think of the many dangers you dearest one are, now,
you will be exposed to and worst of all a battle.
And I known it is not in my power to screen you from these
many dangers only in one way, I can pray for you daily.
I commit you to him who is able to preserve----------------
----
to your home and those who love you so dearly.
Last night I got to dreaming about you, when I woke I had Jinnie
hand clasped in mine and my head close in her bosom.
and was so sure that it was you that my disappointment was as
great, so that it made me weep. When I fully realized you
were far away sleeping upon your blanket with the hard
earth for a bed. Though our living together as husband
and wife was so short duration that I sometimes now can
hardly realize it as being so, for it often seems more like a
pleasant happy dream than a reality. Yet I know it

[11 May 1862]

is a reality and I feel it is hard for me to live without
you. I think I could appreciate a loving look, a kind word
....
...............before for I miss my affectionate husband.
You must write often to me while you can for I shall long
to hear often. Mr. Stevenson speaks of going tomorrow. Write by
him if you can. Tell how you are getting on and the news too,
for we hear nothing much from Corinth now. I have made
you something like unto a haversack, perhaps it will
answer if you can get no better. If you have one, give this
to someone who has none. Have you any knapsacks,
did you find your blankets or have you only one?
I must close, mother and sisters join me in much
Love to you, I remain your most affectionatly,

Mattie Lynn

I went to sunday school today, carried the Bible you gave
me for the first time. I felt lonesome going by myself.

Does the boys plague you about getting married.

Burn up this for if any of the boys was to find
it they would torment you some.

Home. May 21st /1862

My Dear Husband;

I had [illegible] and effec
[illegible] a line from you [illegible]. I [illegible] almost [illegible]
and was [illegible] low in spirits because I could not hear
[illegible] you. [illegible] I felt [illegible] you had [illegible] and
[illegible] mail was [illegible] yesterday I recd both of your
[illegible] and was so glad to get them. They [illegible]
[illegible] my heart more than I can express to you. [illegible]
[illegible] affectionate [illegible]
[illegible] words [illegible] [illegible] me [illegible]
your [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] this [illegible]
[illegible] out to me [illegible] I sent [illegible]
[illegible] to [illegible] she [illegible] anxious to hear [illegible]
I [illegible] to go over there last week but was not [illegible]
enough had [illegible] throat slightly all week and this
week thus far has been damp & rainy and has kept
me from ventureing out. Mother and Jinnie
have gone down to see Priscilla Simonton, he is very
sick and tis thought unless a change takes place
very soon he will die. If he does his loss will

[illegible] Federals bombard [illegible] of last evening
at Fort Pillow. The first gun we've heard since
Old Jeff's scrimmage

Home. May 21st/1862

Federals bombed & shot while of last evening at Fort Pillow. The first gun we've heard since Old Jeff's scrimmage

My Dear Husband:

I had [illegible] and expected a line from you [illegible]. I have become almost [illegible] and was growing low in spirits because I could not hear [illegible] you. though I felt confident you had [illegible] and the mail was [illegible] yesterday I recd lots of letters and was so glad to get them. They [illegible] unto [illegible] my heart more than I can express to you. [illegible] you are [illegible] affection [illegible] contenting [illegible] you at once [illegible] time [illegible] [illegible] out to me [illegible] I sent [illegible] first to [illegible] she was [illegible] to hear [illegible] I [illegible] to go over there [illegible] but was [illegible] enough had [illegible] throat slightly all week and this week thus far has been damp & rainy and has kept me from ventureing out. Mother and [illegible] have gone down to see Presoily Simonton, he is very sick and tis thought unless a change takes place very soon he will die. if he does his loss will

taken, Yanks leaving Corinth. our forces evacuating [illegible] And lastly. fighting at Corinth (that is [illegible] i.e. hard, [illegible]

be great. both to Church and Country. for Preachers are scarce.
Bob Glass died Monday night. he poor fellow never knew
he was at home. though he knew his friends and every one that
would go in. but being moved so often during his sickness must
have caused him not to know home. I've understood Billie
Wilson was very bad sick I don't know whether he is thought
to be dangerous. Charles Strong. Bob McCullog and Jim
[illegible] are all home sick [illegible]
[illegible] Mother reced a letter from
[illegible] last week [illegible] to at Lizzie gets
letters from him often the last stated he was not
very well I hope if he does get sick he will get
home.. for the thought of you or him getting into one
of those hospitals is anything but a pleasant one for
we've got to think the sick often die or suffer for the
want of proper attention. I reced a letter from
Cousin Rolands sister yesterday. stating pretty much
what you told me. that he was in the battle &c.
I want you to find him. when you do remember my
love to him tell him to write to me as I would like
to hear from him now. Cousin Sallie is down on
our Memphis papers for not giving the Atkins boys
no credit for fighting in the battle for says she

more secrets taken, Yanks leaving Corinth. our forces evacuating
And lastly, fighting at Corinth [illegible]

be. great. both to Church and Country. for Pressleys are.
Bob Glass died Monday night. he poor. fellow never knew
he was at home. though he knew his friends and every one that
[illegible] go in. but being moved so often during his sickness must
have caused him not to know home. I've understood Billie
Wilson was very bad sick too, dont know whether he is thought
to be dangerous. Charles Strong. Bob McCullough and [illegible]
[illegible] are all home sick. [illegible]
[illegible] Mother recd a letter from
[illegible] last week [illegible]
letters from him [illegible] the last stated he was not
very well I [illegible] if he does get sick he will get
home. for the thought of you or him getting into one
of those hospitals is anything but a pleasant one for
we got to think the sick often die or suffer for the
want of proper attention. I recd a letter from
Cousin Rolands sister yesterday. stating pretty much
what you told me. that he was in the battle &c.
I want you to find him. when you do remember my
love to him tell him to write to me as I would like
to hear from him now. Cousin Sallie is down on
our Memphis papers for not giving the Aikens boys
no credit for fighting in the battle for says it's

[illegible]

they done the fighting whilst the Tenn boys done the running, my answer to that was our Tenn boys never run but in the right direction right towards the enemy. Bettie I never heard a word from Bob. his captain's name is Carson. his Colonel Head. 30th Regt. perhaps you may find some one that may know anything concerning his fate. D's wounded cousin she will hardly ever recover. if he does will never be fit for service anymore. We have our cotton ...s in the loom at last they look right nice ...ff ... 's nice letter and will answer it soon ...ar is now at Mr Miller's she perhaps never had the letters as she has been at Bob's you know I have not seen her yet. I think perhaps all things will yet come out straight as he is Captain S. that will have as great influence. Tom was fixing for a trip to Richmond on special business but I cant see had of him. I've not seen Lois since you left. Archy's parents were much distressed about him and of course his girl was. poor fellow I wish he could get to come home once more

they done the fighting whilst the Tenn boys done the running, my answer to that was our Tenn boys never run but in the right direction right towards the enemy. Bettie I never heard a word from Bob. his Captain's name is Carson. his Colonel Head. 30th Regt. perhaps you may find some one that may know something concerning his fate. D. is wounded again she thinks will hardly ever recover. if he does will never be fit for service anymore. We have our cotton dresses in the loom at last they look right nice. I rec'd Tillie's nice letter and will answer it soon. [illegible] is now at Mr. Miller's she perhaps never heard [illegible] the letters as she has been at Bob's you know. I have not seen her yet. I think perhaps all things will yet come out straight as he is Captain S. that will have as great influence. Tom was fixing for a trip to Richmond on special business last account we had of him. I've not seen Lois since you left. Archy's parents were much distressed about him and of course his girl was. poor fellow I wish he could get to come home once more

War news is afloat in rumors such as Vicksburg has fallen. Ric[illegible]

[illegible] you are satisfied there
you [illegible] willing for you to be in the Ordnance
department for I think you will fare better there than
in the army. Our folks are through planting corn
[illegible] fears are entertained about wheat crops as there
is some rust though it is not known yet whether it will
[illegible] injurious we fain would hope it will not.
[illegible] Friday [illegible] returned with the sad news of
[illegible] cannot live. [illegible] a distressing time in
[illegible] now on account of death and sickness of
[illegible] ones. [illegible] sympathize with one another
[illegible] knows how soon they may be called to pass
[illegible] like bereavements. As I have written enough
[illegible] this time, for though I always love to write to you
[illegible] I find my words this morning fail for I cannot
[illegible] as I wish [illegible] feel. Ma and sisters
[illegible] me in much love to you. write to me often as
[illegible] I think of you almost constantly
[illegible] dearly love to hear from you. your love and
sympathy is I feel a rich inheritance one that I could
[illegible] well live without under present circumstances
[illegible] love to Cousin Calvin. so goodbye.

Yours affectionately

[illegible] day morning [illegible] Pressly died & Mattie Lynn
yesterday evening much to the sorrow of all of his friends
his ma in particular. Charlie Strong's fever has been
on the increase since his return home some fear he will
be pretty bad. it is time to stop [illegible] is going to town
[illegible] more days your term of so good bye dear boy
[illegible] enlistment will be out, how I
[illegible] you could get home. but tis no use to

[illegible] you are satisfied there
[illegible] very willing for you to be in the Ordnance
department for I think you will fare better there than
in the army. Our folks are through planting corn

[illegible] fears are entertained about wheat crops as there
is some rust though it is not known yet whether it will
[illegible] injurious we fain would hope it will not.

[illegible] Gridley [illegible] returned with the sad news of
[illegible] cannot live. 'Tis truly a distressing time in
[illegible] community now on account of death and sickness of
[illegible] and all can sympathize with one another
[illegible] none knows how soon they may be called to pass
[illegible] like bereavements. As I have written enough
[illegible] this time for though I always love to write to you
[illegible] I find my words this morning fail for I cannot
[illegible] to you as I wish nor feel. Ma and sisters
[illegible] in much love to you. Write to me often as
[illegible] I think of you almost constantly
[illegible] dearly love to hear from you. Your love and
sympathy is I feel a rich inheritance one that I could
not well live without under present circumstances

[illegible] love to Cousin [illegible] so goodbye

Yours affectionately

[illegible] day morning. Pressily died [illegible] Mattie [illegible]
yesterday evening much to the sorrow of all of his [illegible]
his ma in particular. Charlie Strong's fever has been
on the increase since his return home some fear he will
be pretty bad. It is time to stop [illegible] is going to town
[illegible] more days your term of [illegible] good bye dear [illegible]
[illegible] will be out how I [illegible] get home. but tis no use to

Home May 21st, 1862

My dear Gridley:

I had longed and expected a line from you until I had become almost weary and was growing low in spirits because I could not hear from you though I felt confident you had written and the mail was only slow. Yesterday I rec'd both of your letters and was so glad to get them. They cheered and comforted my heart more than I can express to you while you are away. Kind affectionate encouraging letters will as much toward contenting and reconcilcing one to bear your absence and I often now think how shall I live if we are denied this inestimable privileages. Ma's letter was sent out to me and I send it with my first to her. She was getting anxious to hear from you. I expected to go over there last week, but was not well enough, had sore throat slightly all week and this week thus far has been damp and rainy and has kept me from venturing out. Mother and Jinnie have gone down to see Pressily Simonton, he is very sick and its thought unless a change takes place very soon, he will die. If he does his loss will

be great both to church and country for Presslys are scarce. Bob Glass died Monday nignt. He poor fellow never knew he was at home, though he knew his friends and every one that would go in, but being moved so often during his sickness must have caused him not to know home. We understood Billie Wilson was very bad sick too. Don't know whether he is thought to be dangerous. Charles Strong, Bob McCulloug and Wm Wiley are all home sick; their friends were glad to get them home I know. Mother rec'd a letter from Sam last week and we replied to it. Lizzie gets letters from him often; the last stated he was not very well. I hope if he does get sick he will get home; for the thought of you or him getting into one of those hospitals is something but a pleasant one for I've got to think the sick often dies or suffer for the wantof proper attention. I rec'd a letter from Cousin Rolanus sister yesterday stating pretty much that you told one that he was in the battle. I want you to find him. When you do remember my love to him, tell him to write to one as I would like

[21 May 1862]

to hear from him now. Cousin Sallie is down om
our Memphis papers for not giving the Arkans boys
no credit for fighting in the battle for says she

they done the fighting whilst the Tenn boys
never run but in the right direction right towards the
enemy. Bettie D. never heard a word from Bob. His
Captain's name is Carson; his Colonel Tlead; 30th
Regt; perhaps you may find some one that may know
something concerning his fate. D.D wounded cousin she
thinks will hardly ever recover. If he does will never be
fit for service anymore. We have our cotton
dresses in the loom at last; they loo right nice.
Bess rec'd Billie's nice letter and will answer it soon.
Linda is now at Mr. Miller's; she perhaps never had
got the letters as she has been at Bob's. You know
I have not seen her yet. I think perhaps all things
will yet come out straight, as he is Captain, that
will have a great influence. Tom was fixing
for a trip to Richmond on special business last
acoount we had of him. We not seen Lois since
you left. Archy's parents were much distressed about
him and of course his girl was poor fellow I wish
he could get to come home once more

Provided you are satisfied there.
I'm very will for you to be in the ordance
department for I think you will fare better there than
in the army. Our folks are through planting corn;
some fears are entertained about wheat crops as there
is some rust though it is not known yet whether it will
prove injurious. We would hope it will not.
Well, Gridley, Ma has returned with the sad news of
Pressily cannot live. This truely a distressing time in
our community now on account of death and sickness of
loved ones. All can sympathize with one another
if none knows how soon they mall be called to pass
through like herearements. As I have written enough
for this time for though I always love to write to you,
Yet, I find my wordsthis morning fail for I cannot
write to you as I wish nor feel. Ma and sisters
join me in much love to you. Write to me often as
you can for I think of you almost constantly
and dearly love to hear from you. Your love and
sympathy is I feel a rich inheritance one that I could
not well live without under present circumstances.

[21 May 1862]

came by and brought my letters which was more than
he done for others. He never called no halt in town &
has so litttle news to tell that some conclude he was sworn.
The rumor here is that Wood after being defeated for
Colonel came back to the company & run for Capt.
Tell if it is so. No more, but goodbye.

Home May [illegible]

My own Darling,

[illegible] evening [illegible]

I am thinking about you and would wish if it were [illegible] that you were here to sit by my side and talk to me as you [illegible] [illegible] numbered with the past happy days of the past [illegible] things to remind [illegible] often I long to live them over again. But still I try to hope and often cheering myself with the hope that the future has many happy days yet in store for us. Through the kindness of Mr [illegible] I received your last dear letter which I was expecting and was very glad to get it although it had only been two days since I had read two letters from you yet I cannot hear from you too often. You said in camp that evening far away thinking of the last sabbath you spent at home with me. Whilst I was at home in body but my mind was wandering with you. Sabbath is always my best time to think. Tis true I generally try to read. but I find it very hard to keep my thoughts upon what I try to read. cannot even when not always, in reading the bible.

Lizzie [illegible] the children are here. brings a letter from [illegible] [illegible] 22nd. stating he was well and no battle come off yet. We was relieved to hear he was well for we feared he was going to be sick. I would rather [illegible] could get home to his family, but if he remains I would like for both of you to be together.

I wish you to exercise your own will and judgement about being orderly. But as you wished to know what I think about it I will tell you. My fears are the office would be laborious, more than your strength would or could perform without injury to your health. There is one thing about the ordnance department I do not like because I know you dislike it is being seperated from all of the boys of your acquaintance. Do not let my thoughts on the subject influence you, do what you think will be for the best. Though I feel best satisfied about you when I think you are not exposed to night air & rain shot and shell &c.

I went last friday to see Ma carried your letter she was glad to hear from you. they were all well Saturday we all went to see Sallie. in the evening I came home. feeling a little lonely as I both went and come alone. which would

of course caused me to think of who went with me when I was there last. Whilst I was there it appeared as of everything reminded me of the past and of you, and when night came on I felt like you ought to be there. I looked down the pretty lane with mingled feelings of pleasure and pain. our evening walks were fresh and pleasant. then the question arose would we ever again be permitted to see each other and or to walk hand in hand the pathway of life. But I must stop or else you will think I am very sad which I do not wish you to think for I'm trying to be cheerful praying for a heart resigned submissive meek for whatever is God's will concerning us. Ma said your blue blanket was there and could be sent to you if you wished it. Charlie Strong was some better last I heard. Bob McCullough is very sick. Elbert Page is thought to be getting well. (slowly) We are all well as usual. I feel like young folks this week more than I did last

[illegible] it is [illegible] almost time to retire you must excuse my short letter, for I have written in great haste. The only war news we have is the [illegible] have demanded the surrender of Fort Pillow. Cannot tell you whether it is true or [illegible]

Pa says tell you & Sam he is coming to see you after harvest [illegible] will [illegible] to you

Hoping to hear from you soon I must now close by saying God is our hope and in him let us trust He is a very present help in time of need. Let his word be the main of our counsel and our guide. [illegible] the closet the place of sweet communion with him and we will be prepared for trials suffering and even death itself

So good night beloved one.

Yours Mattie

Jinnie has rec'd one letter from Glad. Mr Steven came by and brought my letters which was more than [illegible] for others. He never called at all in town [illegible] has so little news to tell that some conclude he has [illegible]

The rumor here is that [illegible] after being defeated for Colonel came back to the company & ran for [illegible] tell if it is so. no more. but good bye

Con

[illegible] it is now almost time to retire you must excuse my short letter, for I have written in great haste. The only war news we have is the Yankees have demanded the surrender of Fort Pillow. Cannot tell you whether it is true or [illegible]. Pa says tell you & Sam he is coming to see you after harvest [illegible] to you.

Hoping to hear from you soon I must now close by saying. God is our hope and in him let us trust. He is a very present help in time of need. Let his word be the man of our counsel and our guide and the closet the place of sweet communion with him and we will be prepared for trial suffering and even death itself.

So good night beloved one

[illegible] Mattie

Con

Jinnie has rec^d one letter from Glax. Mr Sleter [illegible] and brought my letters which was more than [illegible] for others. he never called no hall in [illegible] has so little news to tell that some conc[illegible] he was [illegible]. The rumor here is that [illegible] after being expected for Colonel come back to the company & [illegible] for [illegible] tell if it is so. no more. Good bye

Home May 26th, 1862

My dear Gridley:

It is now evening and as usual I am thinking about you and would wish if it were not vain to wish that you was here to sit by my side and talk to me as you have done in days that are now numbered with the past. Happy days of the past. How memory clings to them and often I long to live them over again. But still I try to hope on, often cheering myself with the hope that the future has many happy days yet in store for us. Through the kindness of Mr. Stevenson I rec'd your last dear letter which I was expecting and was very glad to get it. although it had only been two days since I had read two letters from you. Yet, I cannot hear from you too often. You were in camp that evening far away thinking of the last sabbath yoy spend at home with me. Whilst I was at home in body but my mind was rendering with you. Sabbath is always my best time to think. This true I generrally try to read, but I find it very hard to keep my thoughts upon what I try to read; cannot even when not always in reading the bible.

Lizzie and the children are here, brings a letter from Sam date 22nd stating he was well and no battle came yet. We was relieved to hear he was well for we feared he was going to be sick. I would rather Sam could get home to his family, but if he remains I would like for both of you to be together.
I wish you to exercize your own will and judgement about being orderly. But as you wished to know what I think about it I will tell you. My fears are the office would be laborious more than your strength would or could perform without injury to your health. There is one thing about the ordnance department I do not like because I know you dislike it is being seperated from all of the boys of your acquaintance. Do not let my thoughts on the subject influence you. Do what you think will be for the best. Though I feel best satisfied about you when I think you are not exposed to night air & rain, shot and shell ect.
I went last Friday to see ma carried you letter. She was glad to hear from you. They were all well.

[26 May 1862]

Saturday, we all went to see Sallie In the eveni-
ng I came home feeling a little lonely as I
both went and come alone, which would

of cource caused me to think of who wnt
with me when I was there last. Whilst I
was there it appeared as if everything reminded
me of the past and of you and when night
come on I felt like you ought to be there.
I looked down the pretty lane with mingled
feelings of pleasure and pain. Our evening walks were
fresh and pleasant. Then the question arose
would we ever again be permitted to see
each other and or to walk hand in hand the
pathway of life. But, I must stop or else
you will think I am very sad which I do
not wish you to think for I'm trying to be cheer-
ful, praying for a heart resighned submissive
meek for whatever is God's will concerning us.
Ma said your blue blanket was there and
could be sent to you if you wished it.
Charlie Strong was some better last I heard.
Bob McCullough is very sick. Elbert page
is thought to be getting well as usual. I feel like
young folks this week more than I did last

Friday. It is now almost time to retire. You must
excuse my short letter for I have written in great
haste. The only war news we have is the
Yankees have demanded the surrender of
Pillow. Cannot tell you whether it is true or not.
Pa says tell you Sam & he is coming to see you
after harvest. All send love to you.
Hoping to hear from you soon. I must now
close by saying God is our hope and in
him let us trust. He is very present
help in time of need. Let his word
be the insin of our counsel and our guide
and the closet place of sweet communion
with him and he will be prepared for trail
and suffering and even death itself.
so goodnight beloved one.

yours Mattie

Jinnie has recd one letter from Glad. Mr. stevens son

[26 May 1862]

My love to Cousin Calvin so goodby
Your affectionately

Mattie Lynn

Thursday Morning :Pressily died
yesderday evening much to the sorrow of all of his friends, his ma in particular. Charlie Strong fever has been on the increase since his return home. Some fear he will be pretty bad. It is time to stop, Pa is going to town. Two more days your term of enlistment will be out, how I wish you & all of the boys could get home, but tis no use to.. so good bye dear boys

Federal bombed & shot whole of last evening at Fort Pillow; the first gun we've heard since Old Jeff's scrimmage.

War news is afloat in rumors such as Vicksburg has fallen, Richmond take, Yanks leaving Corinth, our forces evacuting and lastly fight at Corinth. What is truth we hardly know.

Corinth Miss
May 27th 1862

My Dear Wife

I hasten to-night to drop you a few lines as I will have an opportunity of sending it by Bence Hill tomorrow. I wrote a few words this evening, but as I did it in great hast expecting to leave every minute I will not send it. I received orders yesteday evening to take charge of a lot of damaged ordnance stores to be shipped to Columbus Miss. but failed to get them off. I expected to go today but could not get ready. I may go in a day or two. If I do I will be gone two or three days

I might write much about what is going on and speculate a great deal about the future, but we are now expressly forbidden to do so by a recent order from Gen. Beauregard. All newspaper corespondents were ordered to leave on the first train, and are not allowed to stop or return within twenty five miles of our lines. We will probably have fewer rumors now than we have had heretofore.

I received your very kind and affectionate letter of the 21st Inst today. It had been at the regiment ever since Sabbath. I had began to think very long indeed. I had written four and only received one. The time seemed much longer from having writen so many more than I received. I know very well that my own dear little Mattie has done her duty. I knew all the time there was one on the road for me. There is one or more there now for me; still I cannot help thinking long sometimes. I always feel much refreshed after reading one of your letters.

Although your last was writen under peculiarly sad-dening circumstances and burdened with much sad in-telligence, yet there is much in it to make my heart glad, and to encourage me in my lonely hours. I am blessed in having such a dear loving wife. You have already made the happiest of all my happy hours. When I review my past life and compare myself with many of those that are as good by nature as I, and perhaps far better by practise, I feel that I cannot be thankful enough for all, not even for the least of Gods gracious blessings. While others fall thick and fast around me, why is my poor profitless life preserved? Why am I spared, and blessed with such dear loving ones? Truly I must be blessed and surely I live under the special direction of a kind and merciful Providence. When I would have blindly courted poverty and misery, and my ever-lasting destruction too, He defeated my plans, restrained me by His grace, and saved me from a multitude of woes. I would commit myself entirely to His care, and to His guidance. Your few words upon the margin afforded me a world of satisfaction, as well as of information. We have special reason to be thankful for He has blessed us now as we wished. Let us cast our whole dependance upon Him, and He will do that which is for our good and His own glory. We have a right to ask but He alone knows what is for our good. Some of the above might appear discon-nected to some, but to you, who know my past better than any one except myself, it can easily be understood.

I have been quite unwell since I wrote last. I caught a severe cold out at the regiment last Thursday night. Since that I have slept at the ordnance store. I had some fever the two nights following, but was able to be up all the time. I have now nearly recovered. I was up at the regt today and called by the 51st to see Sam, but he was out at the ditches. There is several sick in their company now, and there has been five deaths since I came back. All "our boys" are well except Charlie. He has a terrible cold. Capt Wood started home today. I did not know he was going so soon.
I went and saw Cousin Roland yesterday. I had but a short time to stay, but I spent an hour very pleasantly. He sends you his love and best wishes. He wonders why you have quit writing to him. He promised me a visit and when he comes I will tell him to write to you, as you requested me. As it is getting late I will close for the present. Give my love to all. It is all yours reserve enough for yourself. Goodnight.

Your affectionate husband,

H. M. Lynn.

Corinth, Miss
May 27th, 1862

My dear wife

I hasten tonight to drop you a few lines as I will have an opportunity of sending it by Bruce Hill tomorrow. I wrote a few words this evening, but as I did it in great hast expecting to leave every minute, I will not send it. I recieved orders yesterday evening to take charge of a lot of damage ordnance stores to be shiped to Columbus, Miss, but failed to get them off. I expected to go today but could not get ready, I may go in a dya or two. If I do I will be gone two or three days.

I might write much about what is going on and speculate a great deal about the future but we are now expressly forbidden to do so by a recent order from Gen. Beauregard. All newspaper corespondents were ordered to leave on the first train, and are not allowed to stop or return within twenty five miles of our lines. We will probably have fewer rumors now than we have had hertofore.

I received your very kind and affectionate letter of the 21st inst. today. It had been at the regiment ever since sabbath. I had begun to think very long indeed. I written four and onl;y received one. The time semmed much longer from having written so many more than I received. I know very well that my own dear little Mattie has done her duty. I knew all the time there was one on the road for me. There is one or more there now for me; still I cannot help thinking long sometimes. I always feel much refreshed after reading one of your letters.

Although your last one was written under peculiarly saddeng circumstances and burdened with much sad intelligence, yet there is much in it to make my heart glad and to encourage me in my lonely hours. I am blessed in having such a dear loving wife. You have already made the happiest of all my happy hours. When I review my just life and compare myself eith many of those that are as good by nature as I, and perhaps, far better by practice, I feel taht I cannot be thankful enough far all, not even for the least of God's gracious blessings. While others fall thick and fast around me, why is my poor profitless life perserved? Why am I spared and blessed with such dear loving ones?

[27 May 1862]

Truly I must be blessed and surely I live under the special direction of a kind and nerciful Providence. When I would have blindly courted poverty and misery and my everlasting destruction too. He defeated my plows, restrained me by his grace and saved me from a mulitude of woes
I would commit myself entirely to his care and to his guidance. Your few words upon the margin afforded me a world of satisfaction, as well as of information. We have special reason to be thankful for he has blessed us now as we wished. Let us cast our whole dependence upon him and he will do that which is for our good and his own glory. We have aright to ask but he alone knows what is for our good. Some of the above might appear disconnected to some, but to you who knows my past better than any one except myself, it can be easily be understood.

I have been quite unwell since I wrote last. I caught a severe cold out at the regiment last Thursday night. Since that I have slept at the ordance store. I had some fever the two nights following, but was able to be up all the time. I have nearly recovered. I was up at the regt today and called by the 51st to see Sam, but he as out at the ditches. There is several sick in their company now and there has been five deaths since I came back. All our boys are well except Charlie. He has a terrible cold. Capt Wood started home today. I did not know he was going so soon. I went and saw cousin Roland yesterday. I had but a short time to stay, but I spend an hour very pleasantly. He sends you his love and best wishes. He wonders why you have quit writing to him. He promised me a visit and when he comes I will tell him to write to you as you requested me. As it is geting late I will close for the present. Give my love to all. It is all yours reserved enough for youself, goodnight.

Your affectionate husband
H.M. Lynn

Dear Husband;

[illegible]

[illegible] friday [illegible] to hear from you [illegible] sorry to hear you was [illegible] but as you [illegible] better [illegible] you wrote. I hope you are entirely well again. I feel that you and I have great reason to be thankful because of your preservation in the midst of disease and death. I also recd your letter of May 28th last tuesday and was much relieved from reading it, you have a more speedy way of conveying news to me than I have to you. for I scarcely ever have an opportunity of sending letters by hand, I love to hear from you often and tis a great satisfaction to me to write to you. I wrote to you last monday. but I think it doubtful whether you recd that letter or this one I'm now writing. for we cannot learn a word that can be relied on from Corinth. There is some rumors abroad. one saying that our army is falling back to Columbus Miss. another is our army is retreating; though contesting every inch of ground had retreated six miles. so you see ours is an unpleasant situation at present. In continual suspense

Home, June

Dear Husband;

I received your [illegible] last friday and was very glad to hear from you but was sorry to hear you was not well. but as you felt better when you wrote. I hope you are entirely well again. I feel that you and I have great reason to be thankful because of your preservation in the midst of disease and death. I also recd your letter of May 28th last tuesday and was much relieved from reading it. you have a more speedy way of conveying news to me than I have to you. for I scarcely ever have an opportunity of sending letters by hand, I love to hear from you often and it is a great satisfaction to me to write to you. I wrote to you last monday. but think it doubtful whether you recei[ve] that letter or this one. I am now writing. for we cannot learn a word that can be relied on from Corinth. There is some rumors abroad. one saying that our army is falling back to Columbus Miss. another is our army is retreating; though contesting every inch of ground had retreated six miles. so you see ours is an unpleasant situation at present. In continual suspense

Grisley, tell me whether you need that blanket. Moo told me to ask you. I [illegible] you got it in my last — but fearing you would not get the letter I thought it best to name it again. Tell me when you need anything. I will send you whatever you need if it is in my power to do so, for I wish you to be comfortable as circumstances will [illegible]

[illegible] Remember your little [illegible] in your prayers. I understood your letter. It comforted my heart so much [illegible]

Confederate money, but was released, he told them he would take ... The folks are scared to refuse Confederate money, now it is about the best currency of all.

"Sam re... to Jim last week, asking him or pa me to come and see after him when the battle was over as I think you will be more apt to escape than Sam if you will be allowed try to see what has become of him for situated as we now are the news may not reach us in a long time if there is a battle. Jim will go soon as we can hear something reliable. I console myself with the hope that you will not be exposed to the dangers of a battle. But I know Sam poor boy will have to take it as it comes. I want to write to him by this mail whether he ever will get my letter I do not know. but I will perform my duty anyhow Uncle Willie Wilson has his two sons Billie & Bob home now. Bob is very low. Scott. McDill & C Irwin could be brought no farther than Somerville. McDill is there waiting on Scott until he can come home he is very sick though the doctors do not think him dangerous. Brown Rickards could get no farther than Memphis. where he died but his corpse was interred yesterday at Salem grave yard. All other sick soldiers of our neighborhood are convalescent Calvin Simonton arrived here last week brings quite a sad account of the treatment of citizens from Federals. Calvin's goods were taken and divided amongst

Confederate money, but was released, the told them he would take
...o. The folks are scared to refuse Confederate money, now it is about the best currency of all.

Sam wrote to Jim last week asking him or pa one to come and see after him when the battle was over. As I think you will be more apt to escape than Sam if you will be allowed try to see what has become of him for situated as we now are the news may not reach us in a long time if there is a battle. Jim will go soon as we can hear something reliable. I console myself with the hope that you will not be exposed to the dangers of a battle. But I know Sam's poor boy will have to take it as it comes. I want to write to him by this mail whether he ever will get my letter I do not know. but I will perform my duty anyhow. Uncle Billie Wilson has his two sons Billie & Bob home now. Bob is very low. Scott McDill & C Irwin could be brought no farther than Somerville. McDill is there waiting on Scott writes home he is very sick though the doctors do not think him dangerous. Brown Pickaroo could get no farther than Memphis. where he died but his corpse was interred yesterday at Salem grave yard. All other sick soldiers of our neighborhood are convalescent. Calvin Simonton arrived here last week brings quite a sad account of the treatment of citizens from Federals. Calvin's goods were taken and divided amongst

Kiley "Wily" has been before the authorities of [illegible] Pillows about
it as [illegible] as any other money, only it would [illegible] loss where [illegible]

the Union men of [illegible] neighborhood, they went to Mr
Moffatt's [illegible] the [illegible] drawers carried them out fed
their horses in them and destroyed all of Martha's nice clothing
males they can
they compel all to take the oath to support Lincoln's
Government even it should be at the sacrifice of life & property
then make them swear they are not forced to take this oath but
[illegible] of their own [illegible] [illegible] All that do not
take this oath are in prisoned. There is [illegible]
a day of retribution [illegible] for such [illegible] unfeeling
set of creatures. they don't deserve the name of men.
for they [illegible] of the principles [illegible] feelings of men
Picayune Butler's proclamation is [illegible] make
the blood boil at fever heat in every Southerner's veins
for it plainly tells us what we may expect if such black
hearted wretches as him only [illegible] the power. Though
I cannot think all Federal Generals are [illegible] for
I must think a majority of them would [illegible] such
a course. If [illegible] we will soon
test the generosity and gentlemanly principles of our
invading enemies. I sometimes think with David
when he was given his choice to either [illegible] into the
hands of his enemies or of his God his choice was
God, because of his mercy, he is merciful but man is
often destitute of it

the Union men of his neighborhood. they went to Mr

Moffatts took out the bureau drawers carried them out fed

their horses in them. and destroyed all of Martha's nice clothing

my. They compel all males they can to take the oath to support Lincoln's

Government—even it should be at the sacrifice of life & property

then make them swear they are not forced to take this oath but

to it of their own choice [illegible] &c. All that [illegible]

take this oath are imprisoned. There is certain to

a day of retribution [illegible] for such a [illegible] unfeeling

set of creatures. they dont deserve the name of men.

for they are destitute of the principle [illegible]

Picayune Butlers proclamation is enough to make

the blood boil at fever heat in every [illegible] veins

for it plainly tells us what we may expect of such black

hearted wretches as him [illegible] the power. Though

I cannot think all Federal Generals are [illegible] for

I must think a majority of [illegible] such

a course. [illegible] will soon

test the generosity and gentlemanly principles of our

invading enemies. I sometimes [illegible]

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hands of his enemies or of his God his choice was

God, because of his mercy, he is merciful but man is
often destitute of it-

Riley Wily has been before the authorities of Fort Pillow about
it as ruthlessly as any other money out, it would not pass where he [illegible]

of Bettie &

I went to Mr Elmore's last friday to help make Marsh some clothing as I came on home through town your letter was handed me. I was riding along reading of it when I met your pa. we stopped and I read him a portion of it which he appeared glad to hear They were all well as usual

friday about noon I took the toothache, and that night I suffered greatly scarcely sleeping any. My face swelled and I had fever was bad last saturday & yesterday. but feel some better to day

Jeff laughs at me and calls me a beauty. Jinnie has never been well since her visit to Shelby. has never got well of her cold. The rest of the family are well as usual. but we are all down below zero because we cannot hear from our boys. I wish I could get a letter from you this evening, telling me all is [illegible]. I heard you had gone to Columbus but did not know whether to believe it or not. I often wish to see you and when I think how long it may be before I get to see you, it appears rather hard for me to wait patiently. Be prudent [illegible] take all the care of yourself you can. I will still try to pray for your preservation and safe return to your home & to me. I would say write but I know you will write often you have ever been kind & thoughtful done much to render me happy. for which I love you dearly. All send much love to you. My love and best wishes attend you.

Yours affectionately until death Mattie

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] forget [illegible] to direct my letters. [illegible] Hindman now? I know his height. but not his [illegible]. Capt!

Mary Kennedy's little babe was buried yesterday, it has been afflicted a long while

Punch Kinn & A. B. Winchester informed me of Bell's death at the battle of Fort Donelson in Saturdays fight-

was not discouraged, for [illegible] I know [illegible] [illegible]

& Bettie [illegible]

I went to Mr Elmore's last friday to help make Morehs some clothing. as I came on home through town your letter was handed me. I was riding along reading of it when I met your pa. we stopped and I read him a portion of it [illegible] he appeared glad to hear. They were all well as usual.

Friday about noon I took the toothache. and that night I suffered greatly, scarcely sleeping any. My face swelled and I had fever was [illegible] fast Saturday & yesterday. but feel some better to day. Beff laughs at me and calls me a beauty. Jinnie has never been well since her visit to Shelby. has never got well of her cold. The rest of the family are well as usual. but we are all down [illegible] because we cannot hear from our boys. I wish I could get a letter from you this evening, telling me all the news. I [illegible] heard you had gone to Columbus but did not know whether to believe it or not. I often wish to see you. and when I think how long it may be before I get to see you. it appears rather hard for me to wait patiently. Be prudent and take all the care of yourself you can. I will still try to pray for your preservation and safe return to your home & to me. I would say write but I know you will write often you have ever been kind & thoughtful done much to render me happy. for which I love you dearly. All send much love to you. My love and best wishes attend you

your affectionately until death Mottie

[illegible] reason I don't write to [illegible] I've forgotten how to direct my letters. Is he under Hindman now? I know his regt. but not his Co. nor Capt.

Mary Hannah's little babe was buried yesterday, it has been afflicted a long while.

Punch Kinn & N. B. Winchester
Informed me of [illegible]
the taking of Fort Donelson on
Saturday's fight -

Home June 2nd/62

Dear Husband:

I rec'd yours of May 27th inst last Friday and was very glad to hear from you, but was sorry to hear you was not well, but as you felt better when you wrote. I hope you are entirely well again. I feel that you and I have great reason to be thankful because of your preservation in the midst of disease and death. I also recd your letter of May 23rd last tuesday and was much revived from reading it, you have a more speedy way of conveying news to me than I have to you for I scarcely ever have an opportunity of sending letters by hand. I love to hear from you often and tis a great satification to me to write to you. I wrote to you last Monday, but think it doubtful whether you rec'd that letter or this one. I'm now writing for we cannot learn a word that an be relied upon from Corinth. There is some rumors abroad, one saying that oue army is falling back to Columbus, Miss., another is our army is retreating though contesting every inch of ground, has retreated six miles. So, you see ours is an unpleasant situation at present in continual suspense.

Sam wrote to jennie last week asking him or pa, one to come and see after him when the battle was over. As I think you will be more apt to escape than Sam. If you will be allowed, try to see what has become of him for situated as we now are the news may not reach us in a long time if there is a battle. Jim will go soon as we can hear something reliable. I console myself with the hope that you will not be exposed to the dangers of a battle. Bit, I know Sam, poor boy, will have to take it as it comes. I want to write to him by this mail, whether he ever will get my letter, I do not know, but I will perform my duty anyhow. Uncle Billie Wilson has had his two sons, Billie & Bob home now. Bob is very low. Scott McDill & B. Truin could be brought no farther than Somerville. McDill is there waiting on Scott, writes home. He is very sick though the doctors do not think dangerous. Brown Pickaroo could get no farther than Memphis, where he died but his corpse was interred yesterday at Salem grave yard. All other sick soldiers of our neighborhood are convalescent.

[2 June 1862]

Calvin Simonton arrived here last week, brings
quite a sad account of the treatment of citizens from
Federals. Calvin's goods were taken and divided amongst

the union men of his neighborhood. They went to Mr.
Moffatt's, took out the beureau drawers, carried them out, fed
their horses in them and destroyed all of Martha's nice clothings.
They compel all to take the oath to support Lincoln's
government even if it should be at the sacrafices of Life & prosperity,
then make them swear they are not forced to take the oath, but
do it of their own choice, willingby. All that do not
thake the oath are imprisioned. There is certainity
a day of retribution in store for such a barbarous unfeeling
set of creatures. They don't deserve the name of men
for they are destitude of the principles and feelings of men.
Picaynue Butler's proclamation is enough to make
the blood boil at fever heat in every southern's veins
for it plainly tells us what we may expect if such black
hearted
wretches as him only have the power. Though
I cannot think all Federal Generals are as Butler for
I must think a majority of them would condemn such
a course. If PIllow is evacuated, we will soon
test the generosity and gentlemanly principles of our
invading enemies. I sometimes think with David
when he was given his choice to either fall into the
hands of his enemies or of his God, his choice was
God, because of his mercy; he is merciful, but man is
often destitude of it.

I & Bettie went to Mr. Elmore last Friday to help make Marsh some
clothing as I came home through town, your letter was handed
me. I was riding along, reading of it, when I met your pa. We stopped
and I read him a portion of it which he appeared glad to hear.
They were all well as usual.
Friday about noon, I took the toothache and that night I suffered
greatly, scarcely sleeping any. My face swelled and high fever, was bed-
fast Saturday & yesterday, but feel some better today.
Bess laughs at me and calls me a beauty. Jinnie has
never been well since her visit to Shelby, has never got
well of her cold. The rest of the family are well as
usual, but are all down below zero, because we cannot
hear from our boys. I wish I could get a leter from you this
evening, telling me all the news. I've heard you had gone

[2 June 1862]

to Columbus, but did not know whether to believe it or not. I often wish to see you and when I think how long it may be before I get to see you. It appears rather hard for me to wait pati ently. Be prudent and take all the care of yourself you can. I will still try to pray for your preservation and safe return to your home & me, I would say write but I know you will write often . You have ever been kind & thoughtful, done much to render me happy for which I love you dearly. All send much love to you. My love and best wishes attend you.

Yours affectionatly until death-Mattie

The reason I don't write to Roland is I've forgotten how to direct my letters. Is he under Hindman now? I know his regt' but not his co nor Capt.

Gridley tell me whether you need that blanket. Ma told me to ask you. I wrote about in my last, but fearing you would not get the letter, I thought it best to name it again. Tell me when you need anything, I will send you whatever you need, if it is in my power to do so, for I wish you to be comfortable as circumstances will permit; remember your Mattie in your prayers. I understood your letter, it comforted my heart so much, it was not disconnected for I well knew your meaning.

Mary Hannah's little babe was buries yesterday. It has been afflicted a long while.

Riley Wiley has been before the authorities of Fort Pillow about Confederate money, but was released. He told them he would take it as willingly as any other money; only it would not pass where he lived. The folks are scared to refuse confederate money now; it is about the best currency of all.

Punch Winn & N.B. Winchester informed me of Bob's D's death at the battle of Fort Donalson on Saturdays fight.

[1]

Home July 12th 1862

My Dear [illegible]. I once more take my pen to write to you. There is so many things I [illegible] tell you if I could see you and talk with you that I cannot write [illegible] my letter might fall into other hands as it has to run the blockade. For several weeks after the retreat from [illegible] we could hear nothing from our army and we had almost come to the conclusion that we never would hear from our friends anymore. After these [illegible] a rumor came that the [illegible] boys had been sent to [illegible] Carolina or Virginia. Just on the [illegible] of this rumor came letters from almost all of the boys which relieved comforted and cheered the hearts of [illegible] the [illegible] of our boys. [illegible] countenances were changed to [illegible] and there was a general rejoicing [illegible] the fullness which caused our minister the following Sabbath to render thanks unto God in his prayer for hearing from [illegible] we loved so [illegible] once more.

I feel grateful to brother [illegible] & Charlie, for had it not been for them I never [illegible] whether you were living or dead. I was very glad to hear from you even through their letters but it was not like hearing from you. My disappointment has been great and I could not but wonder why every one could get a letter but me and [illegible] way [illegible] from the army [illegible] the news that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the boys [illegible]. All of the [illegible] laughed at me [illegible] you was my sweetheart [illegible] have sent a letter to me long [illegible] ago. [illegible] from their [illegible] ment by Charlie and [illegible] being so punctual in writing to their girls.

my
The [illegible] well. Mother is [illegible] unwell. [illegible] has been right sick this week. [illegible] plaining. [illegible] us are well as usual [illegible] you may [illegible] but my [illegible]

I am [illegible] that [illegible] is a poor [illegible] my [illegible] as now. [illegible] there is [illegible] live [illegible]

[illegible] Church [illegible] been [illegible] since you [illegible] to a [illegible]

to get [illegible] it [illegible] for I miss [illegible] I go anywhere [illegible] as if everything [illegible] Now on [illegible] see the [illegible] There was a time [illegible] blue [illegible] through that [illegible] for my [illegible]

[illegible] over [illegible] that [illegible] dream was [illegible] [illegible] here or [illegible]

[illegible] nothing [illegible] we get [illegible] any thing in [illegible] South [illegible] of the [illegible] papers [illegible] Illustrated [illegible] of a part of the war, [illegible] of [illegible] with [illegible] dancing [illegible] almost [illegible] I [illegible] fortune [illegible] have [illegible] funny looking [illegible] generals [illegible] Old Jeff's [illegible] picture [illegible] colors. [illegible] sitting [illegible] a Cotton [illegible] a little [illegible] crouched [illegible] his feet [illegible] the [illegible] a [illegible] isolation, back of him is a [illegible] all around is a motley crowd of [illegible] looking [illegible] drinkers, raising [illegible] and glasses [illegible] our first president.

I read an account of the evacuation of Corinth in the Chicago. [illegible] They called it an empty victory.

[3]

[illegible]

I have just eat [illegible] and if you and [illegible] had just been here I think you [illegible] beans [illegible] squash tomatoes & [illegible] blackberry [illegible] pie & plum [illegible] would be [illegible] to [illegible] must get [illegible] you get them at any.

[illegible] is I hear in [illegible] spirits [illegible] and [illegible] letter from Johnson he has [illegible] through his [illegible] through [illegible] since he has [illegible] in prison. It is [illegible] his father [illegible] Dave Wood of the mountain [illegible] he has and all [illegible] circumstances [illegible] that it [illegible] for he is [illegible] camp and is not here.

[illegible] has gone [illegible] brother [illegible] I have not had an hour [illegible] with her since the week of our [illegible]. The [illegible] that had a [illegible] North has been [illegible] her home. I have only seen her at church have not had any conversation with her [illegible] she says there [illegible] more men of [illegible] sympathies here [illegible] is Unionists here [illegible] guess if there is [illegible] are very [illegible] deeds. Since the dropping of a few drops of [illegible] grease at Pillow & Memphis there has been a mighty [illegible] of the [illegible] in the [illegible] of Egypt and [illegible] Union [illegible] and the surrounding vicinity of the [illegible] City of [illegible].

Those who were apparently our friends in [illegible] of prosperity in the day of adversity have come out in open field [illegible] worse enemies [illegible], some of our [illegible] no [illegible] were so anxious [illegible] to go to Memphis [illegible].

We have had [illegible] an exciting time ever since our [illegible] Pillow and it gets worse instead [illegible]. First [illegible] Cotton burners. Their work of destruction proves very [illegible] as they [illegible] burned [illegible] making [illegible] poor. Then [illegible] the cotton buyers and [illegible] green almost [illegible] if [illegible] it shines. And now somebody are [illegible] round burning all the cotton of the speculators wherever they [illegible] and I reckon all they find [illegible] they are [illegible] Akers. No one has any idea who they are. Mr. Strong [illegible] was [illegible] by night [illegible] wheat was in the [illegible].

I think [illegible] a time now for every one that wishes their neighbor ill to seek revenge for [illegible] is going to be [illegible] credit of the Yankees [illegible] Guerrillas. It is [illegible] tea that [illegible] dark spirit is abroad in this [illegible] and it is [illegible] that [illegible] is only a beginning. [illegible] sold [illegible] to [illegible] cents a pound in gold [illegible] will answer every [illegible] home & then [illegible] it at [illegible].

[illegible] Cotton buyer has gone up the river [illegible] a boat [illegible] a letter with no name telling her [illegible] the [illegible] was going to be [illegible] all of his [illegible] taken down as he returns. She is very much [illegible] keeps [illegible] her [illegible] every night. She [illegible] her share of trouble and I feel sorry for her [illegible] things go contrary [illegible] very often.

A gentleman elder of our Church is home now. I guess he is taking a broad eye view of matters. Some of his neighbors threaten to inform the Lincoln Cavalry of his whereabouts. Which has raised his Irish [illegible] pretty high

[3]

I have just eat dinner, and if you and Sam had just been here I think you would have enjoyed the dinner for [illegible] ect beans [illegible] squash [illegible] tomatoes & [illegible] blackberry and [illegible] le pie & plum preserves would be a [illegible] to you for you must get things [illegible] ever you get them at all.

Lois is I hear in good spirits has heard from Archy and has [illegible] letter from Johnson. he has read through his bible and [illegible] past [illegible] through his [illegible] since he has [illegible] in prison. It is general opinion [illegible] Capt Wood is prisoner. [illegible] Hill [illegible] his father that Dave Wood of the mountain [illegible] was prison [illegible] he was and all other circumstances go to prove that it is our [illegible] for he is missing [illegible] camp and is not here.

Rinda has gone up to [illegible] Brother [illegible]. I have not had one chance [illegible] with her since the week of our [illegible]. The gentleman that had a daughter up north has been and brought her home. I have only seen her at church have not had any conversation with her at all. she says there is more men of southern sympathies there than there is Unionists here [illegible] guess if there is they are very [illegible] deeds. since the dropping of a few drops of resurrection grease at Pillow & Memphis. there has been a mighty [illegible] of the dry bones in the valley of Egypt and [illegible] Union [illegible] and the surrounding vicinity of the grand city of [illegible] in [illegible] of prosperity in the [illegible] those who were apparently our friends [illegible] come out in open full [illegible] colors, worse enemies [illegible] some of [illegible] who have taken the oath were so anxious [illegible] to go to Memphis [illegible]. We have had [illegible] an exciting time ever since [illegible] Pillow and it gets worse instead of [illegible] First it is Cotton burners. their work of destruction proves [illegible] as they [illegible] burned [illegible] making some [illegible] poor. [illegible] the cotton [illegible] and made [illegible] green almost [illegible] if [illegible] shines. And now [illegible] boys are going round burning all the cotton of the speculators wherever they [illegible] and I reckon all they find anywhere [illegible] they are [illegible] Akers. no one has any [illegible] who they are. Mr. Strong [illegible] was burnt [illegible] by night [illegible] what was [illegible].

I think it is a time now for every one that wishes their neighbor [illegible] to seek revenge for there is going to be [illegible] dealt [illegible] Yankees [illegible] Guerillas. It is to be [illegible] that [illegible] numberless [illegible] dark [illegible] is abroad in this our country and it is [illegible] a thing is is only a [illegible].

Your [illegible] & [illegible] sold [illegible] to [illegible] for [illegible] cents [illegible] in gold or [illegible] if [illegible] will answer [illegible] [illegible] it at [illegible].

Mason [illegible] Cotton buyer has gone up the river [illegible] a [illegible] his [illegible] has [illegible] a letter with no name telling her that the [illegible] was going to be killed [illegible] all of his [illegible] taken down [illegible] he returns. [illegible] much trouble, keeps [illegible] her [illegible] every night. She [illegible] her share of trouble and I feel sorry for her [illegible] go contrary [illegible].

A gentleman elder of [illegible] Church is [illegible] I guess he is [illegible] a bird's eye view of matters, some [illegible] his neighbors threaten to inform the [illegible] Cavalry of his whereabouts. which has roused his Irish [illegible] pretty [illegible].

All join me in much love to you. May the [illegible] of a kind Providence attend you, and bring you safely home again to happiness and me. So goodbye dear husband

[4]

[illegible]

We looked for the [illegible] [illegible] but have [illegible] them yet, and we [illegible] to if I [illegible]. None of them [illegible] took old Mr Chambers carriage horses. he reported [illegible] their officers [illegible] them [illegible] saw them [illegible]. They went [illegible] he was [illegible] bed. his wife [illegible] them to come [illegible]. to [illegible] talk [illegible] [illegible] they [illegible] & abused C. [illegible] went [illegible] Mrs C went [illegible] them and her husband knocked up the gun until [illegible] have [illegible] done Mrs C [illegible] a [illegible] gun [illegible] her sister [illegible] and fired [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible] and [illegible] killing him [illegible] friends wanted her to run off to [illegible]. but she said [illegible] report to their [illegible] what she [illegible] Commander [illegible] her [illegible] had [illegible] they [illegible] rewarded her with a gold [illegible] vouch for the truth [illegible] thing I hear.

Will [illegible] making [illegible] some [illegible]. I hope [illegible] still get on [illegible] of the [illegible] again I get [illegible] or again [illegible] them. I still [illegible] hopes that [illegible] in the [illegible] again for we feel weary of this yankee [illegible] up in [illegible]. We [illegible] hear from you all often

and [illegible] you are [illegible]. or we [illegible] you [illegible] or provisions and [illegible] such things which [illegible]

We [illegible] dwelling [illegible] of enemies [illegible] dangers but [illegible] the [illegible] is limited. and we [illegible] assured that God [illegible] if it is his [illegible] upon [illegible]. I [illegible] sleep [illegible] with [illegible] all around us [illegible] when these [illegible] come. but fear seems to [illegible] me [illegible] cannot [illegible] or what my feelings would be if a gang of soldiers [illegible] come, and many other [illegible] such as burning of [illegible] or [illegible] our [illegible] corn. in such emergencies I know if [illegible] to my own strength I should faint.

I still [illegible] of our final deliverance from our enemies. I feel confident that God is able to deliver us if it is [illegible] his will [illegible] and destruction [illegible] for it is [illegible] so many [illegible] men. leaving so many widows [illegible] blasting the hopes & [illegible] [illegible] for I [illegible] that there is any more prospect of peace now than [illegible] twelve months ago. [illegible] acknowledge I cannot see for it is [illegible] to see [illegible]

I hope you may have good health while [illegible] get home. I hope you will write to me. for I feel very anxious to get a letter from you. I think it would help [illegible] under these times of [illegible] trial. remember me in your [illegible] prayers. I often wish to see you but I know it is vain to think such as for awhile after you left Corinth I felt like I never should see you any more

We looked for the Federals a long time but have not [illegible] them yet, and do not care to if I keep my eyesight. Some of them [illegible] took old Mr Chambers carriage horses. he reported them. their officers punished them. That [illegible] made them seek revenge. They went back. Chambers was sick in bed. his wife [illegible] them to come [illegible] a [illegible] to [illegible] talk to her husband. they [illegible] & abused C. and [illegible] went to shooting. Mrs C went between them and her husband. knocked up the gun until her husband [illegible] [illegible]. Mrs C [illegible] a double barrelled shot gun [illegible] her sister [illegible] and fired [illegible] the whole load in the man's head and face. killing him. [illegible] friends wanted her to run off to [illegible]. but she said no she would report to their officers what she had [illegible] and [illegible], and [illegible] Commander [illegible] her for doing as she had. and [illegible] [illegible] rewarded her with a gold medal but I [illegible] vouch for the truth of [illegible] I hear.

Well Gualey, I am making up some clothes. I hope [illegible] will get on the [illegible] of the blockade again I get them [illegible] or again [illegible] them. I still live in hopes that you will all get back in the state again for we feel weary of this yankee prison. that we are pinned up in. as [illegible] we cannot hear from you all [illegible] and so [illegible] [illegible] you are [illegible]. or we could [illegible] you [illegible] or provisions and many such things [illegible]

We [illegible] dwelling [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] but we think the [illegible] is limited. and we [illegible] [illegible] can [illegible] as if it [illegible] upon [illegible]. I lie awake and sleep [illegible] with [illegible] all around me once I thought [illegible] when [illegible] come. [illegible] to have [illegible] me now but I cannot [illegible] or what [illegible] would be if a gang of soldiers [illegible] come. [illegible] many [illegible] of our [illegible] seen or [illegible] corn. in such [illegible] know if [illegible] to my [illegible]

I still live in [illegible] our final [illegible] [illegible] Confident that God is able to [illegible] his [illegible]. Oh the [illegible] and [illegible] for it [illegible] [illegible] men. leaving so many [illegible] blasting the hopes [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that there is any more prospect of peace now [illegible] [illegible] will acknowledge [illegible] for [illegible]

I hope you [illegible] [illegible]. I hope you will write to me. for I feel very anxious to get a letter from you. I think [illegible] one [illegible] under [illegible] since [illegible] trials. remember [illegible] prayers. I often [illegible] to see [illegible] but I know it is [illegible] such as for awhile after you left Corinth I felt like I never should see you any more

=But turning from [illegible] made me [illegible] hopeful again. We have made ne[illegible] [illegible] mine. [illegible] Gen Bragg back to Tenn [illegible] you shall have [illegible] dram [illegible] the Yanks dont come along and drink it first

Home July 12th, 1862

My Dear Gridley: I once more take my pen to write to you. There is so many things I could tell you if I could see uou and talk with you that I cannot write, fearing my letter might fall into other hands as it has to run the blockade. For several weeks after the retreat from Corinth, we could hear nothing from our army and we had almost came to the conclusion that we never would hear from our friends any more. After these weeks of suspense rumor came that the Tenn boys had been sent to South Carolina or Virginia.

Just on the heels of this rumor came letters from almost all of the boys which releived, comforted and cheered the hearts of all the lovers of our boys. Sad countenances were changed to cheerful ones and there was a general reforcing and spirit of thankfullness which caused or minister on the following sabbath to render thanks in his prayer unto God for hearing from those we loved so much once more.

I feel grateful to brother Sam & Charlie for had it not been for them I never should have known whether you were living or dead. I was very glad to hear from you even through their letters, but it was not like receiving one from you. My disappointment has been great and I could not but wonder why everybody could get a letter but me and could not account for it, only the way that you being some distance from the army failed to see any of the men that visit camp, but while I try to excuse war, the thought arise that you could write and leave it with some of the boys to send bt some one. All of the girls laugh at me and say if you was my sweetheart now, you would have sent a letter to me long time ago. They prove their argument by Charlie and Arch's being so punctual in writing to their girls.

We are not well . Mother is very unwell. Bettie D. has been right sick this week, and pa is conplaining. The remainder of us are well as usual. Gridley I hope you may read this letter, but my fears you will not, for I am trying to wite with a quill pen that Jim made us and he is a poor builder of pens if this is his best. We have a cousin staying with us now; Mollie Montague. She is a great talker, fine company for young folks. Your Pa's family are all well or was last sabbath. I seen them at church. I have only been over there but twice since you lest. It is a satifaction for one to go. I might say it is a painful pleasure, for I miss you more there than I do anywhere else for it appears as if everything reminds me of you. Now as I ridup and see the front windows, I think there was a time when a pair of blue eyes watched through taht window for my coming.

Ma said to say when over there last, that she thought her dream was partly fullfilled, for you as we here or comparatively speaking , it is as well be in dungeons, foe we could hear nothing from you, nor no papers we get give any thing in favor of the south and I have seen several of the Yanks

[12 July 1862]

papers and have Leslie's Illustrated history of a part of the
war, commencing with the surrender of Island 10 and closing with
Pittsburg Landing, claim victory almost throughout. I think old
Frank will make an independent fortune by his pictures, has some
funny looking ones to represent southern generals. Has old Jeff's
inauguration pictured in gloom colors; has him sitting on a cotton
bal s, supported by barrels of wiskeys, a little girl crouches between
his feet--
a torch desolation back of hime is a gallows; all around is a
motley crowd of starving looking whisky drunkards waiving bottles
and glasses in honor of our first President.
I read an account of the evacuation of Corinth in the Chicago T.
They called it an empty victory.

I have just eat dinner and if you and Sam had just been here, I think you
would have enjoyed the dinner for I expect beans, pottatoes, squashes, tomatoes & beets,
blackberry and apple pie & plum preserves would be a treat to you; for you cannot get
them often, I know if ever you get them at all.
Lois is I hear in good spirits, has heard from Archy and has rec'd one letter from Johnson.
He has read throught his bible and went partly through his arithmetic since he has been
in prision. It is general opinion that Captain Wood is prisoner. Bob Hill wrote to his father
that Dave Wood of the mountain church was prisoner where he was and all other circum-
stances go to prove that it is our Capt. for he is missing from campand is not here.
Linda has gone up to her brother Bob's. I have not had an hour chat with her since
the week of our marriage. The gentleman that has a daughter up north has been
and brought her home. I have only seen her at church; have not had any conversation with
her at all. she says there is more men of southern sympathies there than there is Unionist
here. I would quess if there is teir are very plenty indeed. Since the dropping of a few
drops of ressurrection grease at Pillow & Memphis. There has been a mighting shaking
of the dry loned in the valleys of Egypt and Ireland and Union Mills and
the surrounding vicinity of the great city of nineteen voters.
Those who wer apparently our friends in the times of prosperity in the day of adversity
have come out in open full blown colors, worse enemies than an invader. Some of our
citizens have taken the oath; were so anxious they had to go to Memphis hunting it up.
We have had kind of an exciting time ever since our army left Pillow and it gets worse
instead of better. First it has cotton burners; their work of destruction proved very unjust
as they only burned a part, making some quite poor. Then came the cotton buyers
and made some men almost rich if all is gold that shines. And now somebodys
are going round burning all the cotton of the speculator, whenever they find it, and I
reckon all they find any where else. They are night workers; no one has any idea who they
are. Mr. Strong gin house was burnt Thursday night; part of his wheat was in the house.
I think it is a time now for everyone that wishes their neighbor ill to seek revenge
for there is going to be a great deal done done on the credit of the Yankees and southern
gurrilas. It is to be lamented that such a wicked underhanded dark spirit
is abroad in this our country. And it is my fear that this is only a beginning.

[12 July 1862]

Your Pa & your uncle all sold their cotton to Vandyke for 20 1/4 cents a pound
in gold or yellow shining metal which if it will fare well answer every purpose.
They rec'd pay at home & then delivered it at Randolph.
Major C. has turned out cotton buyer has gone up the river with a roar.
His wife has rec'd a letter with no name telling her the old major was
going to be killed and all his money taken soon as he returns. She is very
much troubled; keeps a guard round her gin every night. She has her share
of troubles and I feel sorry for her; things go contrary to her wish very often.
A gentle man elder of our church is home again. I guess he is taking a birds eye
view of matters. Some of his neighbors threaten to inform the Lincoln cavalry
of his whereabouts, which has raised his irish ways pretty high

We looked for the Federals a long time but have not seen them yet and do
care to if I keep any eyesight. Some of their soldiers took old Matt Chambers carriage
& horses. He reported them; their officers punished them. That made tem seek revenge.
They went back; Chambers was sick in bed, his wife invited them to come round to
a window so they could talk to her husband. They came, cursed & abused C.
and finally went to shooting. Mrs C. went between them and her husband, knocked
up the gun until her husband ran off. Jinnie and Mrs C. sister, took
a double barrelled shot gun, laid it on her sister shoulder and fired putting
the whole load in the man's head and face, killing him. Jinnie friends
wanted her to run off to Dorty, but she said no, she would report to their
officers what she had done and did so and the Colonel commaded
her for doing so. She had and we have heard they had rewarded her with a
gold medal, but I cannot vouch for anything I hear.
Well, Gridley, I am making you some clothes. I hope you will get on this side of the
blockade again. I get them done or again you need them. I still live in hipes
that you will all get back in this state again for we feel weary of this Yankee
prison that we are penned up in so that we cannot hear from yoy all often.
And so you could come home when you are sick or we could send you clothing
or provisions and many such things which we are not permitted to do.
We feel that we are dwelling in the midst of the enemies and dangers
but we think the devil's power id limited and we feel assured that God
can preserve us if it is his will to do so. And upon this assurance I
lie down and sleep sweetly with our windows hoisted all around us.
Once I thought I could not sleep when these times come, but fear seemed
to have left me now, but I cannot tell how or what my feelings would be
if a gang of soldiers should come and many other trails such as burning
of our houses or destroying our wheat or corn in such emergencies I
know if I'm left to my own strength, I shall fail.
I still live in hope of our final deleverance from our enimies. I feel
confident that God is able to deliver us if it is consistent with his will.
Oh, that this cruel and destructive war might end, for it is destroying so many
good & useful men, leaving as many widows & orphans, blasting the hope prosp-
ects of thousands upon thousands. And all for what. I cannot see

[12 July 1862]

that there is any more prospects of peace now than there was twelve months ago, though I will acknowledge I cannot see for it is too dark to see far.
I hope you may have good health. While you cannot get home, I hope you will write to me for I feel very anxious to get a letter from you. I think it would help me bear up under these times of peculiar trial. Remember me in your prayers. I often wish to see you, but I know it is vain to think such a for awhile. After you left Corinth, I felt like I never should see you anymoe, But hearing from you made me feel hopeful again. We have made us some wine. You and Sam hurry Gen Bragg back to Tenn. and you shall have a big drink provide the Yanks don't come along and drink it first. All join me in much love to you. May the blessings of a kind providence attend you so and bring you safely home again to happiness and me.

So goodbye dear husband.

"Home. July 27th 1862.

My Dear Husband:

Once again I have the privilege of penning you a few words which leaves us in the enjoyment of usual health except Bettie. She has typhoid fever. this is nineteenth day she has had fever. within past three days there has been some intermition and we have some hopes of its ceasing entirely soon. She has never suffered much pain. so far it has been of a mild form for that fever.

Your pa's family are well Ma was over here last week. she ~~[illegible]~~ said she was going to write you a small scolding for not writing to her. which I thought would not be amiss. but I expect you will think we are too hard upon you in these times of blockade. But you must only attribute it too the the great love we have for you and a desire to hear from you, which is all very natural.

I have been to church to day. Mr C preached us an excellent sermon. There is communion at Salem to day. There has arisen a difficulty among them, on account of those who have taken the

oath .. some fears were entertained of a complete division but as the communion is to be. I reckon they have agreed to remain as one .. or rather to appear so. for it is to be lamented that our churches should be broken & torn asunder by these things.
John Marshall was buried last friday. he was very bad sick when he reached home.
.. We was sorry indeed to hear of Bob's death though we had rather come to that conclusion since all prisoners could write now. and we got no word of him. We will not tell D. until she gets well.
. The lost is found Jim Dunlap came home a few days ago. his wound was quite a serious one. and he has been through a series of ups & downs ..
Lois came down to see us not long ago. we had quite a pleasant day chatting. she gets to hear from Archy & Johnson. and that causes her to be in pretty good spirits .. I heard through Lois's letter. that your clothes had been stolen.
Your Mother gave the cloth and I have you a change which a friend has promised to take to you For we did not wish you to be uniformed as the Yankee paper said the Georgia Major was (viz a standing collar. pair of spurs)

I shall not write you any news it is not prudent — I've regretted writing you & Sam. what I did in my last. though I hope you would not talk it out Though by some means everything that goes to camp soon returns here again. and such things will only make enemies for a part of us.

I feel hopeful that the time will soon come that you will get back to our state. Our time to rejoice will I hope come soon. Mr Lucas has been to see us. Capt. W. is home and has never been a prisoner. Mr. L. has promised me to go to see you. and I shall be disappointed if you don't send a long letter by him. This is the fifth letter we wrote you since the blockade.

All join in love to you. much love.

from your affect. Mattie

When you write to your Ma don't tell her that you have ever heard of the cotton's being sold. for I never knew how the soldiers was down on us until after I had written to you. or else I never should have told you

Monday morning

Tell Brother [illegible] how we are. as I have not leisure to write to him now. tell him Lizzie and the children are well. they were over last week. I was glad to hear that Cousin K. was still living. for as his General had gone to his own state. I thought perhaps all of his Command had gone [illegible]. Cousin Mollie Montague is still here with us. [illegible] is about as she was yesterday. Excuse this short letter. I could write a lengthy one. if I was to write as I feel [illegible] I will defer it. by consoling myself that the [illegible] may soon come when I can write [illegible] think when Oh when will these days of darkness and trials end. My hearts desire and prayer is that this cruel war that is proving so destructive to human life. hopes prospects and happiness may speedily be brought to a close. and peace once more prevail.

But nothing more at present –

yours as ever goodbye.

Monday morning

Tell Brother [illegible] how we are as I have not leisure to write to him now. Tell him Lizzie and the children are well. they were over last week. I was glad to hear that Cousin K. was still living for as his General had gone to his own state I thought perhaps all of his Command had gone also. Cousin Mollie Montague is still here with us. [illegible] is about as she was yesterday. Excuse this short letter. I could write a lengthy one if I was to write as I feel [illegible] I will [illegible] it by consoling myself that the time may soon come when I can write. [illegible] think when Oh when will these days of darkness and trials end. My hearts desire and prayer is that the cruel war that is proving so destructive to human life, hopes prospects and happiness may speedily be brought to a close and peace once more prevail.

But nothing more at present

Yours as ever goodbye

Home July 27th, 1862

My dear husband:
Once again I have the priviledge of penning you a few words which leaves us in the enjoyment of usual health except Bettie D. She has typoid fever. This is nineteenth day she has had fever. Within past three days there has been some intermition and we have some hopes of it ceasing entirely soon. She has never suffered much pain. So far, it has been of a mild form for that fever.

Your pa's family are well. Ma was over here last week. She said she was going to write you a small scolding for not writing to her, which I thought would not be amiss, but I expect you will think we are too hard upon upu in these times of blockade. But, you must only attribute it too. She the great love wh have for you and a desire to hear from you which is all very natural.

I have been to church today. Mr. C. preached us an excellent sermon. There is communion at Salem today. There has arisen a difficulty among them on account of those who have taken the

oath. Some fears were entertained of a complete division but as the communion is to be, I reckon they have agreed to remain as one or rather to appear so. For it is to be lamented that our churches should be broken & torn asunder by these things.

John Marshall was buried last Friday. He was very bad sick when he reached home.

We was sorry indeed to hear of Bob's death though we had rather come to that conclusion since all prisoners could write now and we got no word of him. We will not tell D. until she gets well.

The lost id found, Jim Dunlap came home a few days ago. His wound was quite a serious one and he has been through a series of ups & downs.

Lois came down to see us not long ago. We had quite a pleasant day chatting. She gets to hear from Arch & Johnson and that causes her to be in pretty good spirits. I heard through Lois letters that your clothes had been stolen.

Your mother gave the cloth and I have you a change

[27 July 1862]

which a friend has promised to take to you.
For we did not wish you to be informed as the Yankee paper said the Georgia major was viz a standing collar, pair of spurs.

I shall not write you any news. It is not prudent. I've regretted writing you & Sam that I did in my last though I hope you would not talk it out. Though by some means everything that goes to camp soon returns here again and such things will only make enemies for a part of us.
I feel hopeful that the time will come that you will get back to our state. Our time to rejoice will I hope come soon. Mr. Lucado has been to see us. Capt. W. is home and has never been a prisoner. Mr. L. has promised me to go to see you and I shall be dissappointed if you don't send a long letter by him. This is the fifth letter I've wrote you since the blockade.
All join in love to you. Much love.

from your affct Mattie

When you write to your Ma, don't tell her that you have ever heard of the cotton being sold. for I never knew how the soldiers was down on us until after I had written to you or else I never should have told you.

Monday Morning
Tell brother Sam how we are as I have not leisure to write to him now. Tell him Lizzie and the children are well. They were over last week. I was glad to hear that cousin R. was still living for as his general has gone to his own state. I though perhaps all of his command had gone also. Cousin Mollie Montaque is still here with us. S. is about as she was yesterday. Excuse this short letter. I could write a lengthy one if I was to write as I feel, but I will confer it by consoling myself that the time may soon come when I can write. I often think when oh when will these days of darkness and trial end. My heart desires and prayer is that this cruel war that is proving so destructive to human life, hopes prospects

[27 July 1862]

and happiness may speedily be brought to
a close and peace once more prevails.
But nothing more at present

Yours as ever-goodbye

Idlewild, Tenn. Nov 23rd /62.

"My Dear Husband;

A few moments of this beautiful sabbath morning shall be spent in penning you a few words, though I feel somewhat discouraged as I have written you three letters and your last still said you had heard nothing from me. I've sent two by Mr Daniels, and he promised to mail them to you as I did not then know where you were. Another I sent by Mr Cummins when he went to Lynnwood to mail. I directed it wrong as I directed to Atlanta Ga, as I had heard you was there. So you see I've used every exertion in my power to let you hear from home and so far have failed. I have recd three letters from you. dates viz. Aug. 22nd. Sept 7th. Oct 15th 29th. Nov 2nd. The first two was two months getting here. The last near one month Mr McReight brought it. I have not seen him yet. We have heard so much sad news of late. that I had become quite anxious to hear from you. one reason of my [illegible] hearing of the [illegible] Magazine & Depot at Jackson Miss As I did not know of your whereabouts. the fear would arise perhaps you was of the number who were so suddenly ushered into eternity. But your letter relieved me on that subject. as well as in many other ways. more than I can express to you. I feel very thankful to God for your preservation. also for your being so comfortably situated as you are. for the many priviledges you enjoy. of which thousands are now deprived of. And my hearts desire and prayer is that you may be preserved and blest through all unto the end. and may again be permitted to return to me and home not worse. but a better man. by serving your country. When I read your letters I feel you are making more progress in the Christian course than me. and I say [illegible] I need [illegible] very much. For I often find my[self] with a murmuring heart a dissatisfied feeling. which renders me so unhappy. I strive against it but it often overpowers me. and I know it is so wrong and sinful. When I see others bearing great trials with cheerful resignation. I ask myself if I have not the worst heart of all. and why is it thus with me. I know I have many things. blessings and priviledges. for which I try to feel thankful for. and which in days past were a source of happiness to me. I have yet a home and many friends that do all in their power to render me comfortable and happy. We are still permitted to worship God without molestation. though our enemies now have us almost completely in their power. yet that is one privilege we still enjoy. Why then should I be discontented. my answer is. my affections are more set on the creature. than they ought to be.

The Yankees have made three raids through here. the first was Infantry 60 of them took breakfast with us. done us no great injury. though it was very humiliating to be made to feel their power and no way but to submit. The last two were cavalry they never called on us. After their first raid. I don't think I ever spent as an unhappy time as I did for two weeks after, for I staid with Mrs Dickson. as her husband had been reported to them as Captain of a Guerrilla Comp— which was false yet it compelled him to scout around. and so we were left alone to face the rudic, many nights we never undressed save to pull of our shoes. Mrs D has been treated more unkindly by them than any other woman in this neighborhood; when I think if they had had the feelings brave men ought to have had they certainly could not have treated no lady in her condition so unkindly. I feared the consequences but she has gotten through much better than I expected her. babe is now over a week old. There is no servants gone from this neighborhood except Sam McDill & John Dickson though they are going fast from the adjoining neighborhoods. If the blacks do not get their freedom they will be the worst disappointed people. for it is the universal opinion amongst them that this war is for this express purpose. and it is my opinion there will be some trouble in portions of the south because of Lincoln's proclamation, and particularly where the Federals have the power. for the negroes are licensed to do their worst. kill all if they can. get freedom by all means any way. and neither naval nor military authority are to intefere. Burning is none too cruel a death for a man that would put forth such a decree as that.

I read a speech of a Conservative democrat of Illinois not long since. which I almost was exactly pleased with. it made me again feel that we had some friends in the north. And again it almost made me willing if democracy could gain the power in Congress and [illegible] old Abe in Constitutional year or [illegible] board if he would not come back to the old constitution, to again try the old Union, for if we can or could have peace would it not be preferable to a destructive and desolating war. An abolitionist Government. I could never consent to. I think extermination of all the races south would be preferable to such a state of affairs as abolitionists are now trying to accomplish. As for the blacks you know I've been an advocate for bettering their condition. but I am impressed with the belief that those that have gone to the Yankees only enter a worse state of servitude. from the reading of their own statements N papers I've formed this opinion. What is to be done with this race if freed. they must not cannot

live here in the south, for we never can submit to be on equality with the blacks
: The Northwest says we cannot have four millions of heathen turned loose upon us it is too degrading they will bring down the price of labor, demoralize society &c
Lastly is the Government of the U States able to Colonize them. even admitting they were is the blacks capable of sustaining a civil government. I think not. so you see we are in the midst of a destructive war. the foundation of it being the negro question. I hardly know what to think, when I see the invader going through this our beloved land desolating and destroying. This truth comes forcibly we have sinned and provoked God or else this could not be permitted. And I have come to this conclusion: The sin of ours is one of four things and I cannot determine which of them it is, viz The Institution of Slavery. The abuse of them as a race allowing them to live in gross darkness whilst we were of the fruits of their labors sending the gospel to other heathen nations. The negro question politically, is it right or wrong. Lastly is it the breaking of the old Union, perhaps I can know which of these four is our sin if I should be permitted to live a few years longer

I do not think you have ever heard of your sister Sallie's death as you have not recd none of my letters. I wrote about it in all of them " She died on the 28th " of last Aug after an illness of 11 days, disease pneumonia. she appeared to be impressed from the first that she would die. and I am glad to say to you to sorrow not as those who have no hope. "for by her patience amid her sufferings, and her conversation she left us clear evidence that she is now in the a better and happier more peaceful home. It appeared a hard struggle at first for her to think of leaving her little sons but as death drew near her love for her Saviour loosed her affections from the world and children and beloved friends " She spoke of you to me and expressed the wish that she could see you once more. I stayed with her most of the time during her sickness
Ma has her children and it is quite a care and charge upon her, but she bears up with great patience and fortitude considering the troubles and trials she has been called to pass through. Jim makes that his home too, Ma so much desires a letter from you think you can say something to cheer and comfort her on account of her bereavements. Do so even If I have to miss a letter by it. I will not complain for she feels so anxious to get a letter
I go to see her often she is more anxious since Sallie is gone. she gets lonesome.
I was there last friday they were well. Aunt Lizy has one the Haskins living near her working with her. The connection are all well as usual
Lizzie has recd a letter from Sam at last. he was with the army in tolerable

Mr. Robert Cummins died last week the 20 of dropsy ..

health; never said a word about ever being sick; Lizzie is not well herself and her children are sick all the time, Ma & Jinnie have gone there to day to see Will he is quite sick

Marsh Elmore is sick with pneumonia near Holly Springs his father has gone to see him

I want you in your next to tell if you need clothing, and advise me how to send it to you, I have you a suit of jeans two striped shirts two pair of drawers socks & gloves all of my own make, all ready made except your coat which I will sew make this week if I live, I've come to the conclusion you are very comfortably clothed by your never saying a word about clothing, Pa said for you to say how would be the best way to get to you, he talks about visiting you but I think he will only take it out in talk for we cannot do well without him in Yankee time.

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I have not seen Linda in a long time she stays up at Bob's as she cannot get to Memphis, she goes to Covington, I think she has almost laid the Captain on the shelf though I may be mistaken in what I think hope. I am

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Oh if I could see you once more, there is so much I could talk about to you

The past seven months appears longest of all, and when I think how long it must be yet before I can get to see you, it is rather too much to think of all at one time

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yours affect until death Mattie

Idewild, Tenn. Nov 23rd, 1862

My dear Husband:

A few moments of this beautiful sabbath morning shall be spent in penning you a few words, though I feel somewhat discouraged as I have written you three letters and your last still said you had heard nothing from me. I've sent two by Mr. Daniels and he promised to mail them to you as I did not then know where you were. Another, I sent by Mr. Commint when he went to Lynod to mail. I directed it wrong as I directed to Atlanta, Ga, as I had heard you was there. Do you see I've used every exertion in my power to let you hear from home and so far have failed. I have received three letters from you dates viz, Aug 22nd, Sept. 7th, October 15th, 29th, Nov 2nd. The first two was two months getting here. The last near one month. Mr. Mcreight brought it. I have not seen him yet. We have heard so much saw news of late, that I have become quite anxious to hear from you. One reason of my anxiety was hearing of the blowing of magazine O Department at Jackson, Miss. As I did not know of you wherabouts, the fear would arise perhaps you was of the number who were so suddenly ushered into eternity. But you letter relieved me on that subject, as well as in many other ways more than I can express to you. I feel very thankful to God for you preservation. Also, for you being so confortably situated as you are for the many priviledges you enjoy of which thousands are now deprived of. Any my hearts desire and prayers is that you may be preserved and bless through all into the end and may again be permitted to return to me and home not worse but a better man by serving his country. When I read you letters I feel you are making more progress in the Christain course than me and I say to myself, I need your prayers very much, for I often find myself with a murmurning heart, a dissatisfied feeling which renders me so unhappy. I strive against it, but it often overpowers me, for I know it is so wrong and awful. When I see others bearing great trails with cheerful resignation, I ask myself if I have not the worst heart of all and why is it thus with me. I know I have many things blessings and priviledges for which I try to feel thankful for and which in days past were a source of happiness to me. I have yet a home and many friends that do all in their power to render men confortable and happy. We are still permitted to worship God without molestation though our enimies have us almost completely in their power, yet, that is our priviledge we still enjoy. Why then should I be so discontended; my answer is my affections are more set on the nature than they ought to be.

The Yankees have made their raids through here. The first was infantry; 60 of them took breakfast withus, done us no great injury, though it was very humuliting to be made to feel their power and no way but to summit. The last two were cavalry. They called on us. After their first raid, I don't think I ever spent as an unhappy time as I did for two weeks after, for I staid with Mrs. Dickson, as her

[23 Nov 1862]

husband had been reported to them as Captain of a gurrilla camp, which was false, yet it compelled him to scout around and so we were left alone to face the music, many night. We never undressed save to pull of our shoes. Mrs. D. has been treated more unkindly by them than any other woman in this neighborhood. When I think if they had had the feelings brave men ought to have had they certainly could not have treated no lady in her condition so unkindly. I feared the consequences but she has gotton through much better than I expected. Her babe is now over a week old. There is no servants gone from this neighborhood except Sam McDill & John Dickson, though they are going fast from the adjoining neighborhoods. If the blacks do not get their freedom, they will be the worst disapointed people for it is the universal opinion amongst them that this war is for this express purpose and it is my opinion there will be some trouble in portions of the south, because of Lincoln's proclamation, and particularly where the Federals have the power for their negroes are licensed to do their worst; kill all if they can get freedom by all means any way and neither naval nor military authority are to interfere. Burning is none to cruel a death for a man that would put forth such a decree as that.

I read a speech of a conservative democrat of Illinois not long since which I almost was exactly please with. It made me again feel that we had some friends in the North. And again it almost made one willing if democrancy could gain the power in Congress and --old Abe in constitutional year or throw him overboard if he would not come back to the old constitution to again try the old union for if we can or could have peace would it not be preferable to a destructive and desolating war. An abolitionist government, I could never consent to. I think extermination of all the races south would be preferable to such a state if affairs as abolitionist are now trying to accomplish. As for the blacks you know I've been an advocate for bettering their condition, But I am impressed with the belief that those that have gone to the Yankees only enter a worse state of serviture. From the reading of their own statements in N. papers, I've formed this opinion; what is to be done with this race if freed, they must not, cannot

live here in the south, for we never can submit to be an equality with the blacks. The northwest says we cannot have four millions of heathen turned loose upon us ; it is to degrading. They will bring down the price of labor, demoralize society. Lastly is the government of the states able to colonize them, even admitting they were is the blacks capable of substaining a civil government. I think not. So you see we are in the midst of a destructive war. The foundation of its being the negro question. I hardly know what to think when I see the invader going through this our beloved land, desolating and destroying. This truth comes forcibly; we have sinnith and provoked God or else this could not be permitted. And I have come to this conclusion. The sin of ours is one of four things and I can't determine which of them it is. Viz the institution of Slavery, the abuse of them as a race, allowing them to live in gross darkness whilest we were of the fruits of their labors sending the gospel to other heathen nations. The negro question politically, is it right or wrong. Lastlly, is it the breaking of the old union, perhaps I can know which of these four is our sin if I should be permitted to live a few years longer.

[23 Nov. 1862]

I do not think you ever heard of your sister Sallie's death as you have not rec'd none of my letters. I wrote about it in all of them. She died on the 28th of last Aug after an illness of 11 days, disease pneumonia, she appeared to be impressed from the first that she would die and I am glad to say to you to sorrow not as those who have no hope for by her patience and her sufferings and her conversation she left us clear evidence that she is now in a better and happier and more peaceful home. It appeared a hard struggle at first for her to think of leaving her little son, but as death drew near, love for her saviour loosed her affections from the world and children and beloved friends. She spoke of you to me and expressed the wish that she could see you once more. We staid with her most of the time during her sickness. Ma has her children and it is quite a care and charge upon her, but she bears up with great patience and fortitude considering the troubles and trials she has been called to pass through. Jim makes that his home too. Ma so much desires a letter from you, think you can say something to cheer and comfort her on account of her bereavements. Do do even if I have to miss a letter by it. I will not compalain for she feels so anxious to get a letter. I go to see her often; she is anxious since Sallie is gone, she get lonesome. I was there last Friday, they were well. Aunt Liza has one the Haskins living near her, working with her. The connection are all well as usual. Lizzie has rec'd a letter from Sam at last. He was with the army in tolerable

health, never said a word about ever being sick. Lizzie is not well herself and her children are sick all the time. Ma & Jinnie have gone there today to see Hill. He is quite sick. Marsh Elmore is sick with pneumonia near Holly Springs. His father has gone to see him. I want you in your next to tell id you need clothing and advise me how to send it to you. I have you a suit of jeans, two stripped shirts, two pairs of drawers, socks & gloves; all of my own make, all ready made except you coat which I will make this week if I live. We come to the conclusion you are very confortably clothed by you never saying a word about clothing. Pa said for you to say how would be the best way to get to you. He talks about visiting you, but I think he will only take it out in talk for we cannot do well without him in Yankee times.
Mr. Conamins and McDill speak of going to see our wounded boys this week. Our good and noble friend Archy has fought his last battle, died in four days after he was wounded and I cannot tell you how sad I felt when I heard it for poor Lois, what a hard trial it will be for her. Ive not seen her since she heard it. The news had come that Dock Mclellan is dead, but I hope it is not so. The battle of the 8th has saddened many households as well as many hearts. When I think of the boys so many of them cut in the midst of youth when their hopes for the future was bright and would have been useful in state and church. I am led to exclaim Oh that this dreadful war might in the providence of God be speedily brought to an end. I've heard today Dock has written home as he is still living.
I have not seen Linda in a long time; she stays up at Bob's as she cannot get to Memphis, she goes to Covington. I think she has almost laid the Captain on the shelf though I may be mistaken in what I think; hope I am.
I am glad you ocassionally meet with old friends as you told me you did on the

[23 Nov. 1862]

12th of last Aug., you thought that sounded quite nice, I know Lou take the baby. Oh if I could see you once more, there is so much I could talk about to you. The last seven months appears longest of all and when I think how long it must be yet befor I can get to see you; it is rather too much to think of all at one time. Gridley I wish you had kept that money you send by Mr. Miller for it is no use to me and perhaps you have need of it. Bobbie Miller is dead.
I will send this letter by Pompey Payne. Quite a crowd leaves us this week for the army. I hope you may get this, if you don't I shall think it useless for me to write. Write to me often as you can write long letters. Ma has got back. Little Will is quite sick withpneumonia. All join me in much love to you. May the blessings of a kind providence attend you.

Yours affct until death Mattie

Mr. Robert Simonton died last week; old age I suppose.

#5029-z
H. M. LYNN
PAPERS

1863

Folder 3 of 5

Home. Tenn. Feb 3rd/1863.

My Dear Husband;

A few moments of this evening shall be devoted to penning you a few words which I sincerely hope you may receive. This is the third letter I've written you since Christmas. but have doubts about your ever receiving any of them. so many of my letters fall by the wayside or at least never reach the desired destination that it is discourag-ing indeed so much so that I find it difficult to try to write.

I recd yours of Dec 10th about the first week in Jan last. it revived and comforted me greatly. But now I wish for another letter, feel so anxious to hear that time appears so long that I grow weary of watching and waiting.

Occasionally the idea takes hold of me that you are coming home and often I catch myself looking for you. and often after retiring at night. the least noise my imagination could make it the sound of footsteps. but so far my [illegible] imagings have only been delusions.

My heart's desire and prayer is for the hastening on of that happy [illegible] when this terrible and destructive war shall come to a close and a permanent peace shall be established. From the signs of the times. many predict peace very soon. whilst we of the south are in open rebellion. contending for our rights and self government. the North is in revolution. and between the revolution and rebellion it is to be hoped it will overtax Old Abe's weak brain. The Legislature and senate of Illinois had quite a time and finally the Republican members skedaddled off to home. There has been a Convention appointed to meet by seven states on the 16th of next month. I think they are to meet at Louisville Ky. I've seen the negro bill. Congress empowers old Abe to raise one hundred and fifty thousand volunteers Americans, African descent. Recruiting officers to be appointed in all the States south except Mo. Ken. Maryl. Deleware Western Va. Tenn. No recruits to be raised in those States without the consent of their Governors. I felt diverted when reading it. with their boasted million of white men in the field. to [illegible] of calling on the blacks for assistance. To my mind it was an acknowledgement of inability on his part to supress the rebellion. it is about his last card.

If his army is deserting everywhere as it is here in the West. he has need to call on the negroes or some other race of people to fight his battles. The country is alive with deserters. making their way home. it is said they are leaving Memphis by the hundreds. and it is also said that it takes three regiments to guard four. Our country people feed them and lodge them and bid them God's speed on their homeward trips. Feeling thankful indeed that so many are inclined to return to the land from whence they came. After so long a time we received news from our boys concerning their fate in the battle of Murfreesboro, whilst many hearts rejoiced on account of the preservation of beloved ones. Yet we have been called to sympathize with the friends of. Billie Wilson and Billie Stevenson. The two who seemed were most needed at home have fallen. But we are constrained to say. "God in his providence doeth all things well." Mr Stevenson fell at home a victim of disease. Billie far away upon the battle field strange but true both died within a few hours of each other on the same day. Hope [illegible] s think theirs was a happy meeting in that world where wars nor rumors of wars never come. Their happiness. but it is eternal peace. Joy and happiness. We suffered great anxiety on account of Brother Sam, but when his letter came, he never even named the battle suppose he was not in it as he is now wagoner, but I felt disappointed though I was glad he was not engaged in the fight. yet he might have told us what he knew about the matter. We claim a victory and the Yankees claim one. How is it? We cannot both be victorious. They dont claim no victory at Vicksburgh. and I hope they never may for I feel anxious if it be God's will. for Vicksburgh to stand until the final dissolution of all things earthly, Some of our home made yankees I expect are praying for its downfall. On to Richmond failed again. is another item of news we rejoice over. a battle with the elements and mud they term it we term it the Lord fought against them. by sending that storm that raged three days and nights. and put a stop to their progress. "Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord".

We are in the enjoyment of usual health at present. your pa was here this morning said they were all well.
The health of our community is tolerable good. some sickness
Mrs James Wright is quite sick pneumonia. Johnnie Thompson has been sick for four weeks with typhoid fever.
Gladney McL is home alive and all right once more after undergoing many trials and hardships. was imprisoned some two weeks in Cairo in a lous hole of a dungeon. brought down to Vicksburgh kept up at the mouth of Yazoo river during the battle there. was told that our folks would not exchange and they were to be carried back and kept during the war
When the boat stopped on the Miss shore to land all sick prisoners Glad and Leroy L made their escape. Lee went to his home in S Carolina. Glad come to his home, he has been up to see us twice it is quite interesting to hear him give in his soldiers experience. says he never knew what war meant until the march through Kent. Although we are living under Lincoln's power we can look around and see many familiar faces that have once been away to the wars. George McDill is getting along finely. looks so natural
Charlie is still in Kent cannot say when he will be at home.
I told Glad seeing of him made me wish for you to be at home as you both left together. he said he would like to see you about now
Davy Adams went north from conscript poor fellow was taken sick with pneumonia and died at his uncles in Ill. John and Jane went to see him but he had been dead a week before they got there.
Colonel Richardson has conscripted until he has quite a little army of the Partizan Rangers. The old Colonel is quite a thorn in the flesh to our tory friends. keeps some of them skedaddling up and down the river first here and then in Yankeedom dont seem willing to shoot guns on either side. I shall not be surprised if they dont have to take some side yet before the final winding up of the matter.

We have a quiet time of rest now the yankees have not been in here since ~~last~~ Oct. and I hope they never may come again. We have great cause to be thankful to God for his especial care and preservation of us whilst in a land that is in the power of our foes. and all surrounded by enemies some I am sorry to say citizens and who ought to be lovers of their southern homes Strange but true. most of our tories are natives of South Carolina

There is so much I would like to write you. but as it is getting late and this evening is so cold that my feet is suffering whilst writing. I will just add that we have had quite a cold rainy snowy and sleeting winter througout. but rarely the sun shines upon us. one snow fell in Jan measured 16teen inches.

Come home to see us all whenever you can. I could talk a long while and not grow weary for I've many things to tell you that would make a letter too lengthy.

All [illegible] are in love to you. As [illegible] ever yours affect. Mattie

Tell me when you write if you know what has become of Cousin Roland Cook. where he is &c is he living &c

God bless you dear boy farewell

[23]

Home Tenn. Feb 3rd 1863

My Dear Husband:

A few moments of this evening shall be devoted to penning you a few words which I sincerely hope you may received. This is the third letter I've written you since Christmas, but have doubts about you ever receiving any of them. So many of my letters falls by the wayside or at least never reach the desired destination. That it is discouraging indeed so much so that I find it difficult to try to write.

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[23 Feb. 1863]

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The health of our community is tolerable good, some sickness. Mr. James Wright is quite sick-pneumonia; Johnnie Thompson has been sick four four weeks with typhoid fever.
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[23 Feb. 1863]

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Come home to see us all whenever you can I could talk a long while and not grow weary for I've many things to tell you that would make a letter too lenghty.
All join me in love to you. As every yors affct. Mattie
Tell me when you write if you know what has become of cousin Roland Cook, where he is, is he living.
God bless you dear boy farewell

Tell me in your next if you know what has become of Cousin Roland C. John [illegible] is home
I expect to send this by [illegible]. he says he cannot stay he[illegible] longer. Just as I would say if I was a man. I should ha[illegible]

Home. April. 15th/63.

My. Dear. Husband;

Once. more. I'm permitted to pen you a few words. If I had any assurance. that you would re.ceive this with what different feelings should I write. During this year. I've sent you letters by every opportunity but fear. you have. never. recd one. Tis now been four. months since I have. gotten a letter from you it appears a very long time though twice during the time I have. heard that you was living and. well. which was a relief and comfort.

We are. in the enjoyment of usual. health at present.

Your. pa's family are. in moderate health I staid there last saturday night Your. Mother intended to write to you, but thought as. I was going to write one. letter would answer. for. both. Nannie has had a felon on her finger has suffered greatly but is better now. Ma said tell you that her. health had been so good that she had gotten along with her. little granchildren much better than she expected. She. stills mourns Sallie's death but thinks if you are permitted to return that you will be a great comfort and satisfaction. but her. fears are. you will never. get back. Such fears are. certain to haunt the mind of your. mother. and me. be.cause of our. deep intrest. But my motto is hope. for. the best and try to prepare. for. the worst. for. life is uncertain. no matter. where we are. ...now home. or abroad. for. dangers. and disease. surround us at present, on every side. The. small pox is in our. country now at Ben Adams and old Mr McElerkins... I feel some. uneasiness. about your. pa's folks getting it for. Jim goes to his fathers. and has to pass near. where. it is, he. thinks there is no danger. and perhaps there is none. as it is said not to be an epidemic. not carried in the atmosphere. The. Yankees took old Charlie last week but was generous as to give your. pa a broke. down animal in his place which answers for. wagon use or. ploughing very well,

Home. April 15th/63.

My. Dear. Husband;

Once more. I'm permitted to pen you a few words. If I had any assurance. that you would receive this with what different feelings should I write. During this year. I've sent you letters by every opportunity but fear you have never rec'ed one. Tis now been four months since I have gotten a letter from you it appears a very long time though twice during the time I have heard that you was living and well which was a relief and comfort.

We are in the enjoyment of usual health at present.

Your. pa's family are in moderate health I staid there last Satturday night Your Mother intended to write to you, but thought as I was going to write one letter would answer for both. Nannie has had a felon on her finger has suffered greatly but is better now. Ma said tell you that her health had been so good that she had gotten along with her little granchildren much better than she expected. She stills mourns Sallie's death but thinks if you are permitted to return that you will be a great comfort and satisfaction but her fears are you will never get back. Such fears are certain to haunt the mind of your mother and me. because of our deep intrest. But my motto is hope for the best and try to prepare for the worst. for life is uncertain no matter where we are. now home or abroad for dangers and disease surround us at present on every side. The small pox is in our country now at Ben Adams and old Mr Mc Clerkins... I feel some uneasiness about your pa's folks getting it for Jim goes to his fathers and has to pass near where it is, he thinks there is no danger and perhaps there is none as it is said not to be an epidemic not carried in the atmosphere. The Yankees took old Charlie last week but was generous as to give your pa a broke down animal in his place which answers for wagon use or ploughing very well,

Tell me in your next if you know what has become of Cousin Roland C. John Strong is home I expect to send this by [illegible]lade. he says he cannot stay longer. Just as I would [illegible] if I was a man. I should [illegible]

My health is about as usual. I had the sore eyes last fall my eyes have never been the same. every cold I take appears to affect them, I think it a sore affliction."

The yanks took Cousin Ed Montague prisoner dont know what they will do with them

to pass

petitions.

Last week was one of anxiety and trial, one that is engraven on memory never to be forgotten by numbers of us whilst we retain our mental faculties. Week before last the Rhodes Jayhawkers paid our neighborhood a visit Old Mr Mc Crim and pa were the greatest sufferers of our community. They foraged and eat off Mr Mc —. Took three of our best horses. leaving us only two piece of animals to work a crop with. — Last week a brutish uncivilized set of composed of Tennesseeians. Mississippians. Alabamians with some pure yanks. Commanded by one Col Hurst. came and done worse than I had ever expected men of any civilized nation would do. They burned Bob Strong's house and every mouthful of provision they had also Christopher Simonton's dwelling house and kitchen and corn cribs they saved their meat; burned John Payne's houses all except his stables Took all or very near all horses they could get their eyes upon. Hurst swears in his wrath that they intend to burn the whole country out their excuse is Richardson or the gurillas as they term them. It is passingly strange why they would burn houses in our neighborhood only when there is men living in all the surrounding country that belongs to the command. If I could see you. I could give my opinion about a great deal that is going on. but as I'm writing perhaps better not say all I think. One thing I do know there is a just God that rules on high though he permits wicked men to sorely try us. yet he will one day sooner or later bring down his wrath upon them. they may prosper for a season. but I know or believe that the blessing of God cannot rest upon so such a nation — Dr Dickson and G Mc Dill are prisoners. George is now confined in the Irving Block Memphis with his parole in his pocket. we have a perfidious enemy as well as a pilfering plundering one. take a man parole or not — G. father has been to see him found him in good spirits. expecting soon to be sent to Richmond for exchange Uncle Bob went with the house burners. pa thinks he did no go willing-ly. One thing certain. I would rather he had gone with any other crowd that has ever been through this country. I want every darkey to go that wants to. rather they would be with the yanks than at home dissatisfied

Last week was one of anxiety and Trials [illegible] that is engraven on memory never to be forgotten by numbers of us whilst we retain our mental faculties. Week before last the Kansas Jayhawkers paid our neighborhood a visit Old Mr McCrim and pa were the greatest sufferers of our community. They foraged and eat off Mr Mc— Took three of our best horses. leaving us only two piece of animals to work a crop with — Last week a brutish uncivilized set of composed of Tennesseans. Mississippians. Alabamians with some pure yanks. Commanded by one Col Hurst. came and done worse than I had ever expected men of any civilized nation would do. They burned Bob Strong's house and every mouthful of provision they had also Christopher Simonton's dwelling house and kitchen and corn cribs they saved their meat; burned John Payne's houses all except his stables Took all or very near all horses they could get their eyes upon. Hurst swears in his wrath that they intend to burn the whole country out their excuse is Richardson or the guerrillas as they term them. It is passingly strange why they would burn houses in our neighborhood only when there is men living in all the surrounding country that belongs to the Command. If I could see you. I could give my opinion about a great deal that is going on. but as I'm writing perhaps better not say all I think. One thing I do know there is a just God that rules on high though he permits wicked men to sorely try us yet he will one day sooner or later bring down his wrath upon them. they may prosper for a season. but I know or believe that the blessing of God cannot rest upon so such a nation — Dr Dickson and G McDill are prisoners. George is now confined in the Irving Block Memphis with his parole in his pocket. we have a perfidious enemy as well as a pilfering plundering one. take a man parole or not — G. father has been to see him found him in good spirits. expecting soon to be sent to Richmond for exchange Uncle Bob went with the house burners. pa thinks he did no go willingly. One thing certain I would rather he had gone with any other crowd that has ever been through this country. I want every darky to go that wants to. rather they would be with the yanks than at home dissatisfied

My health is about as usual. I had the sore eyes last fall my eyes have never been the same. every cold I take appears to affect them. I think it a sore affliction.

to pass

petition. The yanks took Cousin Ed Montague prisoner. don't know what they will do with him

If Lincoln and his abolition fraternity with the negro race were compelled to dwell together in some salubrious clime as far from us as gray eagle could fly in a century I should look for a peaceful happy day very soon to usher in, "For they are or have been still are a Curse indeed to our nation.

We have had tight times already but I fear worse yet I dont value nothing we possess feel as though we will be swept clean. would not be surprised if we were lodging in a tent, before another week If we can only get enough to eat to sustain life a few clothes to cover nakedness during the war and then get our Independence in the end with those we love spared through it I shall feel thankful to God and shall feel as if I possessed a world. I get stronger Southern in my feelings and sentiments every raid the yankees make only gives me a fresh ~~batism~~ baptism in the faith

Last friday was the anniversary of our marriage I thought much and often of you. it was comforting thought to my heart to believe you was thinking of me perhaps at the same moment when my heart was wandering afar with you Oh! how I wished to see you. I felt weary lonely and sad it was such a gloomy day the atmosphere was thick with the smoke of our neighbor's houses. the enemy still at destruction of desolating our native land. I've said I wished to see you. so I do. how long the time seems. soon will be twelve months, and how saddening to think perhaps I must wait much longer. I feel that you will see the impress of these dark times of trial upon my countenance should or when you return.

In writing former letters I've said come home. I cannot say it to you now, for your own safety. I would rather you would not try it any time until the way is clear of enemies. For they hunt soldiers here as though they were ravenous beasts, and you could not possibly be at home without some one knowing it., I still try to cheer my heart with the hope that your life will be spared and mine also and that we may be permitted to live a life of happiness together on earth But if God willeth otherwise let us strive amid the conflicting and distracting scenes of this evil world to prepare to live and love throughout the never-ending ages of the eternity Heaven

I have become homeless and houseless; Cannot [illegible] that Home: for nothing [illegible] of joy. I think of a large army of soldiers [illegible] the home; Oh how much we [illegible] of our homes [illegible] to come along and chase our hoards; We [illegible] of life [illegible] Macedonian Cry

If Lincoln and his abolition fraternity with the negro race were compelled to dwell together in some insalubrious clime as far from us as gray eagle could fly in a century. I should look for a peaceful happy day very soon to usher in. For they are or have been still are a curse indeed to our nation.

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I have become hardened and horrored. Canot shed tears. for nothing save something of Joy. I think if a large army of southern men were [illegible] could bring the tears. Oh how much we wish for some of our brave Tennesseeans to come along and cheer our hearts. We might truthfully send up the Macedonian Cry. [illegible] We send it up in [illegible]

Linda spent a few days with us recently. she appeared more cheerful than I ever seen her. he weighed she weighed 180 pounds. I 100 pounds
I think the south must never to submit while she can muster an army ... no ... to fight ... hope ... at present for peace, not during Lincoln's day;

Brother Jim and Bettie D. was married the 26th of last February it was a very quiet affair taking almost every one by surprise. our family only knew it two days before they were married. we had some suspicions but neither of them told us anything.

Tell me in your next if you are starving in Dixie. for northern papers make quite a blow over high prices and scarcity of breadstuffs &c I have not seen a southern paper in months. I sometimes think we will be as far behind the age we live in as the man that slept twenty years We are not exactly asleep but cannot get no news. for the Memphis papers are certain not to encourage us by their news. We have a good way judging the truthfulness of their war news now. In their accounts of skirmishes with Richardson. One Sunday night not long since our cavalry caught them asleep and gave them a worse killing than they will ever admit of Three of our men were killed. Calvin Nelson was one of them was buried at Salem graveyard with military honors, on Tuesday afterward. Richardson and his men had one of the greatest stampedes from Covington worse as the Bull run more than it was only a small body of men The yanks came very near bagging the whole of them. They can laugh over it now for it did appear funny after the danger was over.

I want you to tell me if it is in accordance with the Confederate laws for a thousand dollars to exempt a man from military duty. It does here but I cannot think there is any lawful authority for it

We have not heard from Bro Sam in a long time wish we could. Lizzie and the children are well, The yanks never trouble her father haven't as yet. Try and send your mother and me a letter if you have an opportunity I think it would prove a stimulus in the midst of these dark and trying days (days of absence sad and dreary experience has proven them so with me. Pa says tell him is there any way to detect counterfeit Confederate money.

I'm staying a part of the time with Mrs Dickson. We have to face the music sometimes I can very well. one night week before last we sat up all night looking for the yanks. I generally can sleep sweetly 'tis when my faith is strong.

All join in love to you. My love best wishes and prayers attend

ever yours Mattie

Brother Jim and Bettie, D. was married the 22nd of last February it was a very quiet affair taking almost every one by surprise. our family only knew it two days before they were married. we had some suspicions but neither of them told us anything.

Tell me in your next if you are starving in Dixie. for northern papers make quite a blow over high prices and scarcity of breadstuffs &c I've not seen a southern paper in months. I sometimes think we will be as far behind the age we live in as the man that slept twenty years we are not exactly asleep but cannot get no news. for the Memphis papers are certain not to encourage us by their news. We have a good way judging the truthfulness of their war news now. In their accounts of skirmishes with Richardson. One Sunday night not long since our cavalry caught them asleep and gave them a worse killing than they will ever admit of Three of our men were killed. Calvin Nelson was one of them was buried at Salem graveyard with military honors on Tuesday afterward. Richardson and his men had one of the greatest stampedes from Covington worse as the Bull run more than it was only a small body of men The yanks came very near bagging the whole of them. They can laugh over it now for it did appear funny after the danger was over.

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I think the south ought never to [illegible] at present for peace, not [illegible] Lincoln's [illegible]
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Home April 15th/63

My Dear Husband:

Once more I'm permitted to pen you a few words. If I had any assurance that you would receive this with what different feelings I should write. During this year I've sent you letters by every opportunity but fear you have never reced one. Has now been four months since I have gotten a letter from you. It appears a very long time though twice during the time I have heard that you was living and well which was a relief and comfort.
We are in the enjoyment of usual health at present.
Your pa's family are in moderate health. I staid there last Saturday night. Your mother intended to write to you but thought as I was going to write, one letter would answer both. Nannie has had a felon on her finger, has suffered greatly but is better now. Ma said tell you that her health has been so good that she had gotten along with her little grandchildren much better than she expected. She stills mourns Sallie's death but thinks if you are permitted to return that you will be a great comfort and satisfaction, but her fears are you will never get back. Such fears are certain to haunt the mind of your mother and me, because of our deep interest. But, my motto is hope for the best and try to prepare for the worst, for life is uncertain. No matter where we are, now home or abroad, for dangers and disease surround us at present on every site. The smallpox is in our country, now at Ben Adams and old Mr. McClerkins. I feel some uneasiness about your pa's folks getting it for Jim goes to his fathers and has to pass near where it is. He thinks there is no danger and perhaps there is none as it is said not be an epidemic not carried in the atmosphere. The Yankees took old Charlie last week but was so generous as to give your pa a broken down animal in his place which answers for wagon use or ploughing very well.

Last week was one of anixiety and trial, one that is engraven on memory never to be forgotten by numbers of us whilst we retain our mental facalties. Week before last the Kansas Jayhawkers paid our neighborhood a visit. Old Mr. McCain and pa were the greatest sufferers of our community. They foraged and eat off Mr. Mc, took three of our best horses, leaving us only two piece of animals to work a crop with. Lat week a brutish uncivilized set of composed of Tennessian, Mississippian, Alabamians with some pure Yanks commanded by one Col. Hurst came and done worst than

[15 Apr 1863]

I had ever expected men of any civilized nation would do. They burned Bob Strong's house and every mouthful of provision. They had also Christopher Simonton's dwelling house and kitchen and corn cribs, they saved the meat. Burned John Payne's house all except his stables. Took all or very near all horses they could. Yet, their eyes upon Hurst swear in his wrath that they intended to burn the whole country out. Their excuse is Richardson or the gurrillas as they term them. It is passingly strange why they would burn houses in our neighborhood only when there is men living in all the surrounding country that belongs to the command. If I could see you, I could give my opinion about a great deal what is going on, but as i'm writing perhaps better not say all I think. One thing I do know there is a just God that rules on high though he permits wicked men to sorely try us, yet he will one day sooner or later bring about his wrath upon them. They may prosper for a season, but I know or believe that the blessing of God cannot rest upon no such a nation. Dr. Dickson and G. Mcdill are prisoners . George is now confined in the Irving Block Memphis with his parole in his pocket. We have a perfiolious enemy as well as a pilfering plundering one, take a man parole or not. G. father has been to see him, found him in good spirits expecting soon to be sent to Richmond for exchange. Uncle Bob went with the house burners. Pa thinks he did not go willingly. One thing certain, I would rather he had gone with any crowd that has ever been through this country. I want every darky to go that wants to, rather they would be with the Yanks than at home dissatisfied.

If Lincoln and his abolition fraternity with the negro race are compelled to drell together in some solubrious slime as far from us as a gray eagle could fly in a century. I should look for a peaceful happy day very soon to usher in. For they are a curse or have been still are indeed to our nation. We have had tight times already, but I fear worse yet. I don't value nothing we posess, feel as though we will be swept clean, would not be surprised if we were lodging in a tent before another week. If we can only get enough to eat to sustain life, a few clothes to cover nakedness during the war and then get our <u>independence</u> in the end with those we loved spared through it, I shall feel thankful to God and shall feel as if I possessed a world. I get Southern in my feelings and sentiments evey raid the yankees make only gives me a fresh baptism in the faith.
Last Friday was the anniversary of our marriage. I thought much and often of you. It was comforting thought to my heart to believe you was thinking of me, perhaps at the same moment when my heart was wondering afar with you. Oh, how I wished to see you. I felt weary lonely and sad. It was such a gloomy day, the atmosphere was thick with the smoke of our neighbor's houses. The enemy still at destruction at desolating our native land. I've said I wished to see you. So I do how long the times seems, soon

[15 Apr 1863]

will be twelve months and how saddening to think perhaps I must wait much longer. I feel that you will see the impress of these dark times of trail upon my contscience should or when you return. In writting former letters I've said come home. I cannot say it to you now for your own safety. I would rather you would not try it one time until the way is clear of enimies. For they hunt soldiers here as though they wer ravenous beasts and you could not possibly be at home without someone knowing it. I still try to cheer my heart with the hope that your life will be spared and mine also and that we may be permitted to live a life of happiness together on earth. But if God willeth otherwise let us strive amind the conflicting and distracting scenes of this evil world to prepare to live and love throughout the never ending eyes of the eternity heaven.

Brother Jim and Betty D. was married the 26th of last February. It was a very quiet affair taking almost everyone by surprise. Our family only knew it two days before they were married. We had some suspicions, but neither of them told us anything.
Tell me in your next letter if you are starving in Dixie for nothern papers make quite a blow over high prices and scaricity of breadstuff. I've not seen a southern paper in months. I sometimes think we will be as far behind the age we live in as the man that slept twenty years. We are not exactly asleep but cannot get no news for the Memphis papers are certain not to encourage us by their news. We have a good way judging the truthfulness of their war news now in their account of skirmishes with Richardson. One Sunday night not long since our cavalry caught them asleep and gave them a worse killing than they will ever admit of. Three of our men were killed. Calvin Nelson was one of them was buried at Salem grave yard with military honors on Tuesday afterward. Richardson and his men had one of the greatest stampedes from Covington, worse at the Bull Run, more than it was only a small body of men. The Yanks came very near bagging the whole of them. They can laugh over it for it did appear funny after the danger was over.
I want you to tell me if it is in accordance with the Confederate laws for a thousand dollars to exempt a man from military duty. It does here but, I cannont think there is any lawful authority for it.
We have not heard from Bro Sorn in a long time, wish we could. Lizzie and the children are well. The Yanks never trouble her father, haven't haven't as yet. Try and send your mother and me a letter if you have an opportunity. I think it would prove a stimulus in the midst of these dark and trying days, days of absence sad and already experi- ence has proven them so with one. Pa says tell him id there any way to detect counterfeit Confederate money.
I'm staying a part of the time with Mrs. Diickson. We have to face the music, sometimes I can very well one night week before last, we sat up all night looking

[15 Apr 1863]

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All join in love to you. My love, best wishes and prayers attend
ever yours Mattie

Tell me in your next if you know what has become
of cousin Roland C. John Strong is home.
I expect to send this by----. He says he cannot stay here no
longer. Just as I would act if was a man. I should have to fight.

Linda spend a few days with us recently . She appeared more
cheerful than I ever seen her. We weighed. She weighed
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I think the south ought never to submit, while she can muster an army.
I've no hope at present for peace, not during Lincoln's day.

I have become hardened and horroried, cannot shed tears for
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could bring the tears. Oh how much we wish for some of our brave Tennesseeians
to come along and cheer our hearts. We might truthfully send up the
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My health is about as usual. I had the sore eyes last fall.
My eyes have never been the same. Every cold I take appeard to affect
them. I think it a sore affliction.
The Yanks took Cousin Ed Monyague prisoner, don't know what they will
do with him.

Have your likeness taken if you can and send home to me. If I was where you could get home I would be satisfied with the one I have [illegible] [illegible] to acknowledge that [illegible] is an [illegible] likeness for those who are engaged [illegible]

my Home [illegible] May 30th/1868

Dearest Husband;

I again have the priviledge of penning you a few thoughts my heart's almost too full for utterance. after so long a famine I've had a rich feast which has amply repaid me for the long weary months of anxiety which I experienced. I recd the three last letters you wrote in reasonable time. The one bearing date 16th of April I recd first. It was read with interest and pleasure. The Past I find is one of my greatest pleasures or comforts. I live over the scenes of departed days often in memory, and chide myself now for not appreciating more highly but how true blessings brighten as they depart. I think of the three weeks of our married life as an oasis in the desert. The present I cannot enjoy nor appreciate as I feel I should. I find myself looking ever to the future as if it was certain there was happiness and the society of your ~~of your~~ in store for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] disappointed when I read you was again in the army if it had been left to my choice I would have chosen for you to have remained in the Department because you could have been more able to do your duty there than as a soldier. but as we believe in a special providence I hope [illegible] all be for the best. We do not know or see the end as God does there [illegible] many providences we wonder at and term them mysterious. While [illegible] willing for you to discharge your duty fully and faithfully [illegible] your country yet the change in your situation has produced quite a change in my feelings have more anxiety and I find it a severe trial to be reconciled to. and though I hope and place my confidence in God and [illegible] try to commit you to his care and keeping yet doubts [illegible] fears will often cloud my sky. I was sorry [illegible] to hear you was not well. I hope you may soon get [illegible] well. diseased bowels appears to be one of the prevalent [illegible] camp life If you should continue to be afflicted so as to render you unfit for duty try and get a furlough and go to South Carolina

Home my May 30th/1868.

Dearest Husband;

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Have your likeness taken if you can and send home to me. If I was certain you would get home I would be satisfied with the one I have. But you know we all have to acknowledge that war is an uncertain business for those who are engaged in it.

or Georgia a change is good and will often prove beneficial.
I would rather have you home if it was possible but know such wish or thought is vain and as I cannot have you with me I would rather you would be with relatives or acquaintances than in a hospital among strangers. I thank God that our sick and disabled soldiers can go to Carolina for poor fellows home would not appear like home to them when the yankees are about them.
We had a communion meeting the third sabbath of this month had preaching saturday night one sermon sabbath quite an interesting service though it was cut short by news of the enemy's coming they landed at Jackson's landing on saturday evening or night gave rise to the report. Nearly every one had recd letters that morning from the army the news was cheering to many hearts the revival is a subject of much thankfullness Mr Cummins rendered Thanksgiving in his prayer, and our friends far away are never forgotten there is a cloud of prayers and tears ever following you — —
Oh that every soldier in our Southern army were christians certainly it would be an invincible army God would soon crown their efforts with peace and "Independence" I sometimes fear it will take more than war to humble us. There is not that spirit of humility among us here at home that ought to be and will have to be ere a better or peaceful day dawns upon us. Oh that we were united in feeling and interest, sympathizing with one another, loving each other as a band of brethren and sisters each standing shoulder to shoulder in this our day of adversity and Trial. But alas it is just to the reverse. War abroad is a great evil but neighborhood x in strife and discord is much to be deplored.
"Henry Mc Ca[illegible] arrived safe at home about two weeks ago. he has received great [illegible] from the lovers of the South, both men and women young ladies in particular. The boys are fearing the Rangers will cut them out of succ[illegible] they have reason to be more uneasy about those wounded soldiers for the girls will love the regular soldiers best no matter how badly they are wounded. Jinnie and Biff and I

Does Dump make you all pay for our letters when he [illegible] there. the last time he recd a dollar for each letter. I dont know what is [illegible] price this time
I failed in getting your knife but pa has gone to try [illegible] as he has two perhaps he can spare one. My eyes have improved are nearly the same except a weakness I feared I would lose my eyesight for awhile. thought if I did I would give you a divorce but what I thought that I dont suppose I could ever have made myself willing to any such an arrangement for I feel like if I should ever have your society again I shall prize it more highly and I'll assure you absence cannot conquer affection for you.

or Georgia a cha[illegible] as [illegible] and will often prove beneficial.
I would rather have you home if it was possible but know such wish or thought [illegible] vain and as I cannot have you with me I would rather you would be with relatives or acquaintances than in a hospital among strangers. I thank God that our sick and disabled soldiers [illegible] go to Carolina for poor fellows home would not appear like home to them when the yankees are about them.
We had a communion meeting the third sabbath of this month had preaching saturday night one sermon sabbath quite an interesting service though it was cut short by news of the enemy's coming they landed at [illegible] landing on saturday evening or night gave rise to the report. Nearly every one had recd letters that morning from the army the news was cheering to many hearts the revival is a subject of much thankfullness Mr Cummins rendered thanksgiving in his prayer. [illegible] our friends far away are never forgotten there is a cloud of prayers and [illegible] ever following you [illegible]
Oh. that every soldier in our Southern army were christians certainly it would be an invincible army God would soon crown their efforts with peace and "Independence" I sometimes fear it will take more than war to [illegible] us. There is not that spirit of humility among us here at home that ought to be and will have to be ere a better or peaceful day d[illegible] upon us. Oh. that we were united in feeling and inter[est] sympathizing with one another. loving each other as a band of brethren and sisters each standing shoulder to shoulder in this our day of adversity and Trial. But alas it is just to the reverse. War abroad is a great evil but neighborhood in strife and discord is much to be deplored.
"Henry Mc Ca[illegible] [arr]ived safe at home about two weeks ago. he has received great [attenti]on from the lovers of the South. both men and women young ladies i[n particu]lar. The boys are fearing the Rangers will cut them out of swee[thearts] they have reason to be more uneasy about those wounded soldiers. for the girls will love the regular soldiers best [no] matter how badly they are wounded. Jimmie and Biff and I

Does Dump make you all pay for our letters when they get there. the last time he recd a dollar for each letter, I dont know what is the price this time. I failed in getting your knife but Pa has gone to try the Dr as he has two perhaps he can spare one. My eyes have improved are nearly the same except a weakness I feared I would lose my eyesight for awhile thought if I did I would give you a place but what I thought that I dont suppose I could ever change made myself telling to any such an arrangement for I feel like if I should ever have your society again I shall prize it more highly and I'll assure you absence cannot conquer my affection for you.

Spent last monday with Henry. he is very talkative and could tell me many things that I loved to hear. There is joy in that house because of Henry's return. I dont know whenever I spent so plasant a day, not lately. I seen Bill Futhy at church last sunday. he looks well. brought sad news for his folks. Bob's death. though they were rather expecting it from what they had heard. John Strong says he is improving. but he looks bad. does not look natural. Mother and I went to Aunt Katy Simontons this week on a visit. The old lady does not appear the same so much changed. is not cheerful as in former days. the troubles of this life have almost worn her down her health is not good. I told her how Charlie was she says if she could think he could stay at home in any peace or safety she would be glad indeed but fearing she cannot insist upon his staying. though she is rather expecting him on a visit. When Linda was here last she spoke of Charlie often. though she appears to have changed towards me. will not make a confident of me now as she once did. I dont know why or what is her reasons unless it is because I'm married. I still hope she will prove herself all right.

I was very much in hopes the Captain would come home to stay. thought if he could not end the war abroad he could step into the his old vocation at home and stop some of our fuss at home here. I once thought Competition the life of trade. but Yankee teachers wont admit any. Take the yankee nation individually and collectively. there is that tyrannical trait of unlimited power. I never want us to fall under their clutches. rather be subject to Napoleon or Victoria. For the Yankees are. take them in a mass. the most low lifed mean low cunning. will condescend to do more low mean acts than any other race now living. I cannot endure them. and I have just as little use for those who do look on them as friends, as I do for the genuine yank. I once thought certainly there was untruths told about their conduct- but now there is nothing too mean for them to do. we are getting better acquainted with their manner of prosecuting the war. almost every day we live. There has not been [illegible] through here since Hursts. though we would not be surprised to see them most any time. They are giving Fayette County a cleaning out. going

The oath is our dread now. The late one is worse than ever. but I still hope they will not enforce it here. though I feel afraid they will. What do you think is a man's duty in case they should enforce it. Those who are over military age. All young men who are friends to the South will report out somewhere in Dixie, I think. but our old pas and the women and children will either have to go without their lines or the men swear allegiance. If our citizens were Hottentots. such an oath might do

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round taking mules and negro men, they allow the negroes to volunteer if they will, others they draft or conscript. I dont think there is many negroes going to remain at home. there is constantly some going. Albert Dowell (cousin of pa's) was up to see us this week. he says there has been five Regt of the Congo boys made up in Memphis. they are allowed officers as high as Colonel. he says they drill them about a week put arms in their hands send them off to Vicksburgh. The rumor is here that old Johnson has called on this State for fifty thousand whites and ten thousand negroes. I think the Confederates have a motley mess against them but some of it is poor fighting material, and will be easily gotten out of the way. We have had many rumors concerning Vicksburgh this week. cannot tell whether there is any truth. The last news was brought by a man from Memphis yesterday. The Federals were repulsed loss very heavy five thousand wounded arrived in Memphis. Old Price had Helena which is too good to be true. The Jackson affair we cannot find out yet. tell me how it went and all you know about Vicksburgh. I'm very thankful to you for sending the little Rebels, the name and paper suits exactly. We rejoice over our victory in Va. but grieve for the loss of the noble and brave. tis thought Stonewall is dead. if so his loss is indeed great. we hear that he appointed Longstreet in his stead, who will be able to fill his place in the hearts of the soldiers and people.

The first news of that battle was Lee was literally cut to pieces and routed. I want you either go to see cousin Rolund or write to him for I want to know how he is and whether he has heard anything from home. expect his folks have had a tight time. if you write direct to 2nd Regt. dont know any more to tell you than that. Brother Sam sent no letter by Dump. we knew his reason for not writing by Henry. I dreamed one night this week that he came home riding a large white horse. thought I was hugging him and crying and wondering you could not come too. which would all be true if you could get here. Lizzie was here yesterday on a visit but I was away. she and the children are well.

Tell me in your reply has any of the boys from this neighborhood professed religion. there is some. I would be glad to hear. hasn't attained a hope. How is Dock getting along, has he recovered entirely from his wound. I'm sorry you all have Locke but hope a satisfactory change may soon come. Pa says what will you take for your buggy. If you do not wish to sell it ask pretty high price.

[4]

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I'm sorry you all have Locke but hope a satisfactory change may soon come.
Pa says what will you take for your buggy. If you do not wish to sell it ask pretty high price.

[illegible]

The weather is fine for farmers to till [illegible] for it has been very dry so much so some were beginning to fear [illegible] but they were too soon to doubt for there was a shower last [illegible] prospect of more very soon. Wheat crops are generally promising [illegible] harvest will soon be here. I think from present prospects we will ma[illegible]thing to eat if we are allowed to keep it of that part we feel doubtful for the yankees claims to own us and all we possess. Some have [illegible] cotton on the old peace system others just enough for home [illegible]. Tis said the Yanks have the whole of Island 10 in cotton cultiv[illegible] contrabands. I'll venture them poor [illegible] never had as tight over[illegible] as they are now under. They have a new oath out now subjects th[illegible] to conscript if they are not under or over age. It is to be [illegible] in Memphis in ten days. There will be some who will either go to [illegible]. The men of our community have escaped so far very few have been forced to take it but tis rather my opinion there is [illegible] who have taken [illegible] that are passing as [illegible] make their bow quite low and polite [illegible] is about. But we have the bone and sinew of the country [illegible] firm unmoved their principles are not made of india rubber [illegible] them for to save a little property nor to speculate either. [illegible] you that it requires just as much courage and bravery to be friends [illegible]untry here as it does to be a soldier in the army, do you think so. [illegible] bless the Southern soldiers and their cause, we will though living [illegible] Lincoln oppression still stand firm to the princi[illegible] that they are so nobly contending and so many are [illegible] their lives for. [illegible] are sacrificing their lives upon the altar of [illegible] country and cannot enjoy what they are selling their lives for. [illegible]ould live our burden at home would not hardly be thou[illegible]. Old Doctor Dickson got released after [illegible] the Irving Block a few days he had no commission [illegible]ized him as surgeon after so long a time. they took [illegible] and watch blankets overcoat and leggins and even his pocket [illegible] of all

Tell [illegible] I wish you [illegible]

Some southern men [illegible] turned out to jay-hawking. most of them reside round Covington [illegible] caught and sent south but we hear they are loose again. Robbery is [illegible] men are coming out in true colors. wicked and bold should not wonder [illegible] [rob]bing did not come next I will enclose. Before [illegible] in more. please to give it to Billie with my best respects

"The weather is fine for farmers to [illegible] for it has been very dry. so much so. some were beginning to fear drouth. but they were too soon to doubt. for there was a shower last [illegible] prospect of more very soon. Wheat crops are generally promising. a[nd] harvest will soon be here. I think from present prospects we will ma[ke] [some]thing to eat if we are allowed to keep it of that part we feel doubt[ful] [illegible] the yankees [illegible] claims to own us and all we possess. Some have [illegible] cotton on the old peace system. others just enough for home [pur]poses. 'Tis said the Yanks have the whole of Island 10 in cotton cultiv[ated by] contrabands I'll venture them poor nigs never had as tight ove[rseers as] they are now under. "They have a new oath out now. subjects th[em] to conscript if they are not under or over age. It is to be [illegible] in Memphis in ten days. there will be some who will either go to the [illegible]. The men of our community have escaped [illegible] being forced to take it but tis rather my opinion there is [illegible] who have taken it that are passing as [illegible] make their bow quite low at poli[illegible] is about. But we have the bone and sinew of the country [illegible] firm unmoved their principles are not made of india rubber [illegible] them for to save a little property, nor to speculate either. [illegible] you that it requires just as much courage and bravery to be friends to [our co]untry here as it does to be a soldier in the army. as you think so. [illegible] the Southern soldiers and their cause, we will though [illegible] by Lincoln oppression still stand firm to the princi[ples] that they are so nobly contending and so bravely are [illegible] their lives for. [illegible] are sacrificing their lives upon the altar of [illegible] country and cann[ot] enjoy what they are selling their lives for. [illegible] would live our burden at home would not hardly be [illegible]

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Tell [illegible] what he done, you wish to had stand [illegible] none of them were this [illegible] good life ever [illegible]

[9]

Monday. June 1st I went to church yesterday [illegible] excellent sermon from Rev. 2nd chapt 17th verse. There was [illegible] even at our church yesterday as was there common days in time of [illegible] I feel hurt sometimes when I see some enjoying themselves so fine, and [illegible] of the noble bands that is far away struggling yea dying many of them for the liberty [illegible] all ought to be equally interested in for. What is our destiny now but [illegible] worse than temporal death"

except the clothes he had on „ he was bitter enough against them before but is m[illegible] more so now, he has never been well since his return. I hope George is [illegible] with you all again this time as we heard he had gone on for exch[illegible] we heard that George said he would rot in prison before he would take the oath „ I seen him not more than fifteen minutes before he fell into the enemy's hands. I so often reflect on myself for not [illegible] and insisting on his turning back, though I did not know they were so near by as the mill, though we were expecting them, but he had heard all [illegible] but I dont suppose he felt sure of their coming as I did „ I think you are all rather too hard on Richardsons men „ for my part I dont know what they ought to do therefore I dont wish to say. I would rather have my husband in the regular army and my brother too but every one has their own choice and I reckon have a right too. Pa is a strong Richardson man thinks they [illegible] right to stay here, acknowledges they cannot do any thing with large bodies of the enemy but the fear of them [illegible] If I could say [illegible] could express my feelings about many things freely, but as a great deal that is written to camp comes back home and might be the cause of wounding feelings, for this reason I feel that I must have a care what I say for it is never my wish to cause disturbances nor to wound feelings, we have recently heard that letters are common or joint stock, all read one anothers well, that appears [illegible] as though you all felt as one family but when news gets back [illegible] we are not so united here, and what is ones like might displease another, I believe some of the Rangers are going to send you all a letter, I hope you all will not get to quarrelling, none of them has [illegible] any letter, though it was such a universal opinion in the last letters that they think you are all down on them.

„ I spent yester[illegible] your pa's they were not very well, several complaining Ma expects to w[illegible] will tell you how all are „ Nannie expects to start to school next [illegible] begins again monday I wish her much success she and I [illegible] pleasant visits when she is teaching when I go over to your [illegible] is so close by, she most always spends a night there with me

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[9]

If you ever should have any secrets to write to one, write them rather to themselves. I always send my letters to Ma or let [illegible] to her to read. I dont mind her seeing none of my letters, but some of the rest of the kin is generally very apt to see them, all are interested in a letter from the army. You must be sure to write an answer to her letter as soon as you get it. I sent to Memphis this week for a knife for you. dont know whether you will get it or not. I will try Dump see if he will take [illegible] in place of [illegible]. You must say in your reply whether you get them [illegible] I will know whether I sent them and will know whether there is any confidence to be placed in Dump for I've very little in him now. If I had known you would have been in the army I should have [illegible] you a supply of socks with Glaze. sorry now that I did not send them with him. I hope the time may soon come that it will not be so dangerous to go to our army. I hope I may get your clothing to you about next fall. they would be warm and good for winter. I have not made you any clothes this year. I thought would wait until [illegible] and two table cloths for you and I to eat off when the war ends. I spin for employment of both mind and body. If I could feel assured that we would one day live in a home of our own. I could take great pleasure in making preparations for it. Dont send me any more money for it would be of use to you and to me it is none for you cannot give it away here. Specie has the currency here. green backs in Memphis. Tenn money will get as low as confederate if the people dont keep it up. That you sent me last summer I would have sent back if I have ever had a good opportunity, but as I had none. I sold it to Pa for fifty dollars in specie. I dont much think it will last any longer than the war does. [illegible] the old continental [illegible]. I dont see any end to this dreadful war. seems to be getting worse instead of any sighns of stopping. I [illegible] think too much about it. I just have to come to this conclusion [illegible] is sufficient for these things he can bring order out of [illegible] he can restore peace when he has sufficiently tried [illegible] us. In his mercy I trust he will soon interpose [illegible] bring this contest to a close.

I feel more anxious to see you than I ever did. You have been two years in the service of your country. two years you have been the object of my affectionate thoughts. anxiety prayers and tears. Will it be thus with us many days or months. I fear longer yet. though I would be glad were it now ended.

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[7]

He was deprived [illegible] him. Glad had gotten through safely. I never thought he would [illegible] nor be captured. I hope you have had your chat with him he can [illegible] you many things that you would like to hear many things about [illegible] I've never written. I've told him some of my ups and downs that I never have told you of. He never got here very often [illegible] fear of being captured after the enemy's visits become so frequent. [illegible] sends [illegible] for you. Congratulations. D. does not look well but that is nothing [illegible] for new married folks.

Mother's health [illegible] good at all now. She had some chills about a month ago and has never been the same since. Tis a sorrowful thought to me to fear she too may be taken from us girls now in these troublous times. I dont know what [illegible] be one of us nor what we would do if she was taken from us. She is our best friend I know. When the thought arises perhaps I may be deprived of mother and husband both it appears more most than I can bear even to think of. I try to hope on but these thoughts often [illegible]

Jim and Pa have bought three mules two nice ones one common and can carry on farming very well. My fears are the two good mules will go up the first raid that is made this way here. If you could have seen me yesterday [illegible] our little poor mule you would have laughed. Read over this letter if you see any thing that is wrong dont let some of the boys read it. [illegible] says she has a good beating in store for you for telling on her about calling Billie a fine knot. I was at old Grand-Ma's for dinner one day not long since. I thought of you and Cousin Calvin when we went to eat our good dinner. Irish potatoes and chicken [illegible] and greens, good pie and custard, biscuit and butter, and other things to suit. Don't you think you could have done justice to all. You never say nothing [illegible] Calvin he almost always remembers you. I've written enough [illegible] unless it was some better than it is so I must stop so seldom I have a chance to send that thought I must write a long letter. I hope to hear [illegible] soon. The times passes off much better when you write often. [illegible] you. The best wishes of my heart are yours. Remember my love to [illegible]

As ever yours affect Mattie

I think so much of the poetry you composed. [illegible] nice you are certainly getting smarter. Was sorry the letter that had the others in it never reached me.

[8]

We was deprived [illegible] hear. Glad had gotten through safely. I never thought he would [illegible] nor be captured. I hope you have had your chat with him he can [illegible] you many things that you would like to hear many things about [illegible] I've never written. I've told him some of my ups and downs that I [illegible] have told you of. He never got here very often [illegible] fear of being captured after the enemy's visits become so frequent. [illegible] sends [illegible] for you. Congratulations. D does not look well but that is nothing [illegible] for new married folks.

Mother's health is [illegible] good at all now. She had some chills about a month ago and has never been the same since. Tis a sorrowful thought to me to fear she too may be taken from us girls now in these troublous times I dont know what [illegible] become of us nor what we would do if she was taken from us. She is our best friend I know. When the thought arises perhaps I may be deprived of [illegible] and [illegible] both it appears more most than I can bear even to think of. I try to hope on but these thoughts often [illegible]

Jim and Pa have bought three mules two nice ones one common and can carry on farming very well. My fears are the two good mules will go up the first raid that is made along here. If you could have seen me yesterday [illegible] our little poor mule you would have laughed. Read over this letter if you see any thing that is wrong dont let some of the boys read it. [illegible] says she has a good beating in store for you for telling on her about calling Billie a "fine Kid". I was at old Grand-Ma's for dinner one day not long since. I thought of you and Cousin Calvin when we went to eat our good dinner. Irish potatoes and chicken [illegible] and greens, good pie and custard, biscuit and butter, and other things to suit. dont you think you could have done justice to all.

You never say nothing [illegible] Calvin he almost always remembers you

I've written enough [illegible] unless it was some better than it is so I must stop so seldom I have a chance to send that thought I must write a long letter. I hope to hear [illegible] soon. The times passes off much better when you write often. All [illegible] you. The best wishes of my heart are yours. Remember my love to [illegible]

As ever your affect Mattie

I think so much of the poetry you composed. [illegible] nice you are certainly getting smarter. Was sorry the letter that had the other in it never reached me.

Home May 30, 1863

Dearest Husband:

I again have the priviledge of penning you a few thoughts. My heart's almost too full for uttereance after so long a famine. I've had a rich feast which as amply repaid me for the long weary months of anxiety which I experienced. I rec'd the three last letters you wrote in reasonable time. The one bearing date 16th of April I recd first. It was read with interest and pleasure. The last I find is one of my greatest pleasures or comforts. I live over the scences of departed days often in memory and chide myself now for not appreciating more highly but how true blessings brighten as they depart. I think of the three weeks of our married life as an oasis in the desert. The present I cannot enjoy nor appreciate as I feel I should. I find myself looking ever to the future as if it was certain there was happiness and your society --saddened when I read you was again in the army. If it had been left to my choice I would have chosen for you to have remained in the department because you could have been more able to do your duty there than as a soldier. But as we believe in a special providence, I hope it may be for the best. We do not know or see the end as God does therefore many providences. We wonder at and term them mysterious. Whilst I'm willing for you to discharge your duty fully and faithfully for your country, yet the change in your situation has produced quite a change in my feelings, have more anxiety and I find it a severe trail to be reconciled to and though I hope and place my confidence in God and ever try to commit you to his care and keeping yet doubts, my fears will often cloud my sky. I was sorry & sad to hear you was not well. I hope you may soon yet get well, disea-sed bowels appears to be one of the prevolent disease of camp life. If you should continue to be afflicted so as to render you unfit for duty try and get a furlough and go to South Carolina

or Georgia, a change as good and will often prove beneficial. I would rather have you home if it was possible but know such wish or thought is vain and as I cannot have you with me, I would rather you will be with relatives or acquantances than in a hospital among strangers. I think God that our sick and disabled soldiers can go to Carolina for poor fellows home would not appear like home to them when the Yankees are about them. We had a communion meeting the third sabboth of the month; had preaching Saturday night. One sermon sabboth, quite an interesting service though it was cut short by news of the enemy's coming. They landed at Richardsons landing on Saturday evening or night, gave

[30 May 1863]

rise to the report. Nearly every one had rec'd letters that morning from the army; the news was cheering to many hearts. The revival is a subject of much thankfullness. Mr. Cummins rendered Thanksgiving in his prayer and our friends far away are never forgotten. There is a cloud of prayers and tears ever following you all.
Oh, that every soldier in our Southern army were christains certainly it would be an invincible army. God would soon crown their efforts with peace and "independence". I sometimes fear it will take more than war to humble us. There is not that spirit of humility among us here at home that ought to be and will have to be ere a better or peaceful days down upon us. Oh, that we were united in feelingand interest, sympathizing with one another, loving each other as a band of brethren and sisters each standing shouldier to shoulder in this our day of adversity and trail. But alas it is just to the reverse. war abroad is a great evil but neighborhood in strife and discord is much to be deplored.
Henry McCain arrived safe at home about two weeks ago. He has received great -------from the lovers of the south, both men and women, young ladies in particular. The boys are fearing the Rangers will cut them out of sweethearts, but they have reason to be more uneasy about those wounded soldiers, for the girls will love the regular soldiers best, no matter how badly they are wounded. Jinnie and Bess and I

spend last Monday with Henry. He is very talkable and could tell me many things that I love to hear. There is joy in that house because of Henry's return. I don't know whenever I spent so pleasant a day, not lately.
I seen Bill Futhz at church last Sunday. He looks well, brought sad news for his folks, Bob's death though they were rather expecting it from what they had heard.
John Strong says he is improving, but he looks bad, does not look natural.
Mother and I went to Aunt Katz Simontons this week on a visit. The old lady does not appear the same; so much changes, is not cheerful as in former days. The troubles of this life have almost worn her down. Her health is not good. I told her how Charlie was. She says if she could think, he could stay at home in any peace or safety. She would be glad indeed, but fearing she cannot insist upon his taying though she is rather expecting him on a visit.
When Linda was here last she spoke of Charlie often though she appears to have changed towards me; will not make a confident of me now as she once did. I don't know why or what is her reasons unless it is because Im married. I still hope she will prove herself all right.
I was very much in hopes the Captain would come home to stay, thought if he could not end the war abroad, he could step into his old vocation at home and stop some of our fuss here. I once thought competition, the life of trade, but Yankee teachers won't admit any.
Take the Yankee nation individually and collectially; there is that tyrannical trail of unlimited power. I never want us to fall under their clutches; rather be subject to Napoleon or Victoria.

[30 May 1863]

For the Yankees are take them in a mass. The most low life mean race now living. I cannot endure them and have just as little use for those who do look on them as friends, as I do for the genuine Yank. I once thought certainly there was untruths told about their conduct, but now there is nothing too mean for them. I do we are getting better acquainted with their manner of prosecuting the war almost everyday we live. There has not been a raid through here since Hurst's though we would not be surprised to see them most any time. They are giving Fayette County a cleaning out, going

round taking mules and negro men. They allow the negroes to volunteer if they will, other they draft or conscript. I don't think there is many negroes going to remain at home. There is constantly some going. Albert Dowell(cousin of pa's) was up to see us this week. He says there has been five regt of the Congo boys made up in Memphis. They are allowed officers as high as colonel. He says they drill them about a week, put arms in their hands, send them off to Vickburgh. The rumor is here that old Johnson has called on this state for fifty thousand white and ten thousand negroes. I think the confederate have a motley mess against them, but some of it is poor fighting material and will be easily gotten out of the wayWe have had many rumors concerning Vicksburgh this week. Cannot tell whether there is any thruth. The last news was brought by a man from Memphis yesterday. The Federals were repulsed, loss very heavy, five thousand wounded arrived in Memphis. Old Price had Helena which is too good to be true. Yhe Jackson affair we cannot find out yet. Tell me how it went and all you know about Vicksburgh. I'm very thankful to you for sending the little rebels the name and papers suits exactly. We rejoice over our victory in Va., but grieve for the loss of the noble and brave. Sis thought Stonewall is dead; if so his loss is indeed great. We hear that he appointed Longstreet in his stead. Who will be able to fill his place in the hearts of the soldiers and people. The first news of that battle was Lee was literally cut to pieces and routed. I want you either go to see cousin Roland or write to him for I want to know how he is and whether he has heard anything from home, expect his folks have had a tight time. If you write; direct to 2nd Reg't, don't know anymore to tell you than that. Brother Sam sentno letter by dump. We knew his reason for not writing by Henry. Idream one night this week that he came home riding a large white horse, thought I was hugging him and crying and wondering if you could not come too which would all be tru if the poor boy could get here. Lizzie was here yesterday on a visit, but I was away. She and the children are well.

The weather is fine for farmers to --------for it has been very dry, so much so, so we were beginning to fear a drouth, but they were too soon to doubt for there was a shower last night and the prospect of more

[30 May 1863]

very soon. Wheat crops are generrally promising. A harvest will soon be here. I think from present prospects we will make something to eat if we are allowed to keep it of that part we feel ------for the yankees claims to own us and all we possess. Some have placed cotton on the old peace system; others just enough for home purposes. Tis said the Yanks have the whole of Island 10 in cotton; culitivated by contrabands. I'll venture them poor nigs never had as tight overseer as they are now under. They have anoath out now; subjects the takers to conscript if they are not under or over age. It is to be enforced in Memphis in ten days. There will be some who will rrather go to death. The men of our community have escaped well. Very few have been forced to take it, but tis rather my opinion there is one who has taken it that are passing as

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make their bow quite low and polite------------------is about, but we have the bone and sinners of the country-------------firm unmoved their principals are not made of india -------------------sell them for to save a little property nor to speculate either . I will tell you that it requires just as much courage and bravery to be friends to our country here as it does to be a soldier in the army. Do you think so? God bless the southern soldiers and the cause. We will though tied down by Lincoln oppression still stand firm to the principles that they are so nobly contending and so many are offering their lives for

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are sacrificing their lives upon the altar of their country and cannot enjoy what they are selling their lives for. We would live our burden at home; would not hardly be thoughtless.
Old Doctor Dickson gor released after brought at the Irving Block a few days. He had no commision, but they realized him as surgeon after so long a time. They took his horse and watch, blankets, overcoat and leggings and even his pocket knife, stipped of all

except the clothes he had on. He was bitter enough against them befor, but is much more so now. He has never been well since his returned.
I hope George is now with you all again this time, as we heard he had gone on for exchange. We heard that George said he would not in prison before, he would not take the oath. Y seen him not more than fifteen minutes before he fell into the enemy's hands. I often reflect on myself for not going out and insisting on his turning back though I did not know they were so near by as the mill though we were expecting them, but he had heard all I had, but I don't suppose he felt sure of their coming as I did.
I think you are all rather too hard on Richardsons men for my part I don't know that they ought to do therefore, I don't wish to say.
I would rather have my husband in the regular army and my brother too, but everyone has their own choice and I reckon have a right too.
Pa is a strong Richardson's man, thinks they ought to stay here, acknowledges they cannot do anything with large bodies of the enemy, but the fear of them

Shelbyville Tenn
June 18th 1863

Dear Mattie

Your dear loving letter was received [illegible] and my heart [illegible] rejoiced, and I feel that [illegible] cannot be too thankful [illegible] kind and gracious God [illegible] manifold blessings [illegible] and [illegible] my beloved, one [illegible] been [illegible] special manner, and [illegible] from [illegible] of an [illegible] heart [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] dear [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] though [illegible] however, [illegible] dear devoted companion [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible] one [illegible] reduced [illegible] like a [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] the tenderest feelings [illegible] and [illegible] to me. [illegible] thoughts [illegible] with [illegible] past [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] can [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and I have [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and thought of my [illegible] decided wise. I pray you think not such a thought again [illegible] brother may soon regain [illegible] health again and that [illegible] may

not [illegible] received [illegible] long [illegible] as it came [illegible]

[illegible]

you and [illegible] to that [illegible] sustain

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] around

[illegible] have [illegible] then

[illegible] has inclined

and [illegible] longer seen and sincere in

the past and [illegible] and

[illegible] as

round [illegible] in our pleasant home. The [illegible] of

[illegible] cannot

[illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] all [illegible] and [illegible] cease to be

more [illegible] ever com

mit [illegible] me soul

and body [illegible] to you[illegible] He is our

God, our shield and portion forever

Our [illegible] continues its [illegible] among

[illegible] Our Regt is still without a chaplain but we

have nightly prayer meetings conducted by Capt J. L. Hall

the president of our Christian Association. There has been

some [illegible] among us since

I last wrote. Some three or four have been baptized

Two by sprinkling the others by immersion. One of the

latter, A. Lane, from our company. Some three or four

others have professed B. Hemmon, A. Templeton and Jas Gafadti among

the number. There [illegible] [illegible] Sunday [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Daniel
[illegible] [illegible] company go often [illegible] [illegible] hands
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the prayers of God's [illegible] chil-
dren [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] preached to [illegible] [illegible] and at the
[illegible] of [illegible] sermon he called on all those who had
[illegible] professed religion and all those who [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] God [illegible] them would never cease striving until
He would bless them in the pardon of their sins to
[illegible] forward and give them their hands he wanted
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to God and not
[illegible] [illegible] While we sang a hymn [illegible] [illegible] arose
with tears [illegible] down their bronzed cheeks and
their whole [illegible] trembling with [illegible] [illegible] went for-
ward and gave their hands to him and [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] who was present [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the num-
ber who went forward [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] the hearts [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] There is no
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a deep se-
rious, earnest thinking that seems to take hold of
of every heart [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] continue to
spread wider and wider until every heart in our entire
army shall feel its powerful influence and may they
never find rest to their souls until they shall return to
that [illegible] prepared by God through our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ. And may its influence reach the utmost
bounds of our Confederacy - converting not only our soldiers

but also all those [illegible] at home [illegible] hope [illegible] peace [illegible] to [illegible] desolated people [illegible] and distressed country. [illegible] we [illegible] and [illegible] providence among us [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] upon [illegible] [illegible] instru [illegible] thousands [illegible] already [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] us may [illegible] more [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] upon the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] upon heaven, He will then [illegible] our land [illegible] [illegible] this inheritance and the [illegible] possession [illegible] Shall the [illegible] then [illegible] assuredly He will. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] upon [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the plan [illegible] our necks and hardened our [illegible] and [illegible] rides upon [illegible] horse preaching [illegible] peace is taken from the earth and [illegible] one another. Let us return unto the Lord while He may yet be [illegible] Let us acknowledge [illegible] and He will pardon our [illegible] [illegible] visit us upon [illegible] and [illegible] in the famine and the pestilence [illegible] day [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] upon God [illegible] deliverance from our troubles He will hear our cry and restore us to peace and [illegible] independence. Pray for us that Christians everywhere may [illegible] to God for the conversion of sinners and that they themselves may grow in [illegible]

God has blessed our arms in our late engagements with the enemy. [illegible] engagement at Chancellorsville [illegible] [illegible] successful. [illegible] [illegible] a brave soldier, a pure patriot and an humble devoted Christian in the person of Stonewall Jackson. He fell [illegible] the hands of his friends and his loss is great but God [illegible] to take him from us, and as, he said upon his deathbed, it is all for the best. In his last moments he requested that [illegible] take charge

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Shelbyville, Tenn.
June 18, 1863

Dear Mattie:

Your dear loving letter was received evening before last. My heart is truly rejoiced and I feel that I cannot be too thankful to a kind and gracious God for his manifold blessings to me and to my beloved ones at home. We have been blessed in an especial manner and I desire to return unto him the sincere thanksgiving of an humble trusting heart for all his goodness and mercy. Thanks be unto him for our lives and our health for his protecting care and sustaining grace through these dark hours of seperation. I am blessed in having such a dear devoted conpanion, in having the sympathy and prayers of an humble earnest christain wife. You wrote me a long loving and interesting letter. I had no wish for it to be better than it was and would only be happy to received and answer such an one every week of my life were such a thing only possible. There was in the whole of it only one remark that produced anything like a feeling of sadness and that I know was dictated by the kindest feelings for and tenderesting devotion to me. I allude to your thoughts in connection with your past afficted eyesight. Such allusiuons can only produce painful emotions. While I would lament and mourn such a dispensation, it has ever been and shall ever continue be the proudist recollection and thought of my life that you are my dear devoted wife. I pray you think not such a thought again. I hope mother may soon regain her wanded health again and that your fears may

not be realized for long years to come, but should our God who is love and mercy see fit to take her from you and me to that upper and better world. He can sustain and comfort us for his promise is "My grace is sufficient for you". You spoke in referance to my returning to my old command. My choice would have been to have remained where I was, but I go cheerfully whereever God in his provdence calls me. He is the same God who has sustained and perserved me through dangers seen and unseen in the past and he is everywhere present to shield and prtect us as well in the camp and upon the battlefield as around the fireside in our peaceful homes. The hairs of our head are all numbered and a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his knowledge and are we not all objects of his care and keeping. Cease to be

[18 June 1863]

now anxious about me here than elsewhere; ever com-
mit me into his hands. He is able to preserve me soul
and body and to return me safe to you. He is our
God, our shield and portion forever.
Our precious revivial continues its livening influences among
our soldiers. Our regt is still without a chaplain but we
have nightly prayer meetings conducted by Capt. J.L. Hall,
the president of our christian association. There has been
some fifteen or twenty hopeful conversions among us since
I last wrote. Some three or four have been babtized.
Two by sprinkling, the others by immersion. One of the
later, S. Lane from our company. Some three or four
others have professed. R. Lemmon, Al Templeton and Jas Goforth among

the number. Others are earnestly seeking an interest in Christ.
H.C. Mills, S. E. Sweet, J.W. Calhoun and Gus Daniel
from ourold company go often. So mourners bench and
ask an interest in the prayers of God's professing chil-
dren. Last Sabbath two weeks, a Cumberland P. Minister
from Selma, Ala preached to our regt and at the
close of his sermon he called on all those who had
lately professed religion and all those who by the grace
of God helping them would never cause striving while
he would bless them in the pardon of their sins to
come forward and give him their hands. He warned
them against making a promise to God and not
keeping it. While we sang a hymn about seventy arose
with tears tricking down their bronzed cheeks and
their whole forms trembling with emotion and went for-
ward and gave their hand to him and a brother
minister who was present. B. Payne was among the num-
ber who went forward. Oh the joy such scenes afford
to the heart of the humblr christain. There is no
unusual excitement but only a deep se-
ious earnest thinking that seems to take hold of
of every heart. Oh may this awakening power continue to
spread wider and wider until every heart in our entire
army shall feel its powerful influences and may they
never find rest to their souls until they shall return to
that ask by God through our lord and saviour,
Jesus Christ. And, may its influences reach the utmost
bounds of our Confederacy, converting not only our soldiers

but also all those loved ones at home. Then we may hope for
peace once more to return to her deserted temple to bless our
distressed country. Now we begin to see God's hand in

[18 June 1863]

his providence among us. He is reaping a rich harvest and gathering many precious souls into his garner above. Thousands upon thousands have already been truned to Jesus through this instrumentality and when he has drown us away sufficiently from the things of this world and fixed our affections firmly upon heaven, he will then restore peace to our land. God in his covenant of grace promised his son the heaven for his inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession and shall he not obtain them. Most assuredly he will. He has rode fourth upon a white horse by ministers, preaching unto us the plan of salvation but we have stiffened our necks and hardened our hearts and he now rides upon a red horse preaching by the sword. Peace is taken from the earth and we kill one another. Let us return unto the lord while he may yet be found. Let us acknowledge him and he will pardon our iniquties. Let us hasten to return unto the lord lest his wrath be kindled but a little and he visit us upon black and pale horse preaching in the famine and the pestilence. When as you say we are sufficiently humbled and call upon God for deliverance from our trouble. He will hear our cry and restore us to peace and independence.
Pray for us. Let Christains everywhere pray nightly to God for the conversion of sinners and that they themselves may grow in the faith. God has blessed our army in our late engagement with the enemy. Lee's engagement at Chancellorsville, Va. was decidedly successful. Still our country has to mourn. A brave soldier, a pure patriot and an humble devoted christain in the person of Stonewall Jackson. He fell by the hands of his friends and his loss is great. But God saw fit to take him from us and as he said upon his death bed, "it is all for the best." In his last moments he requested that Gen Ewell take charge.

Home. June 21st 1863.

Dear. Pridley;

This is sabbath morning a quiet still time and as I have no wish to go to church to day. I've concluded to spend a portion of the day in penning you a few thoughts.

We are in the enjoyment of usual health at present. The health of our neighborhood is good with few exceptions. Mattie Thompson is quite sick with typhoid fever. I recd your letter of 25th of May yesterday evening and was very glad to hear from you ~~often~~ again I rather feared you would be in some hospital when I heard from you. and another cause for anxiety, fearing you all might be sent to Vicksburgh. rumor has had you there. some time ago. I sincerely hope and wish that Vicksburgh may stand until Gabriel's trump sounds the knell of time. For the way matters stands now it is very closely connected with the destiny of the southren nation. By some it is thought to be the turning point. I think if the Federals are outdone there they ought to be willing to stop. but have no hope that they will.

We have no very reliable information as to how things are going. rumors of any and every kind are constantly in circulation. The yankee papers give altogether a onesided story. In the last one I saw. it ~~had~~ some southren news copied. Concerning Vicksburgh. there was great difference in our favor. In that paper I see the Copperheads have nominated Valandingham candidate for Governor, and are going to demand of old Abe his return to Ohio. There is where he ought to be.

Captain Billie reached home safely, much to my surprise. I heard it yesterday I should like to see him but think it doubtful. It brings thoughts of the past and you. for when you was at home last he was too. always makes me feel sad when I do see any of the boys. makes me feel my loss more sensibly ~~for~~ and an increased wish to see the soldier that is so dear to me.

Lizzie has not recd a letter from Sam in some time. you explained the reason satisfactorily. I hope he will be back in camp again some of our friends reach there. Lizzie will write to him and tell him the news generally and particularly how bad the yanks frightened her.

On the evening of the eighth inst we were somewhat surprised by news the yanks are at Mr W. We flurried round a little, Jinnie went to the Dr and Mother and us girls then took our seats in time to see them in full blue riding into the Dr lot. As soon as they had fed their horses. 14 of them came marching deliberately down on us. all privates. we sat. and when they got to the door. they politely bid us goodevening asking for supper. mother told them. she wished them to treat us well. if they would she would try and do her duty by them They assured us they would. When all was seated. Ma went to give out provision to be cooked. and I was left alone with them. I thought they might get to pilfering through the house and my business was to watch them. They were from Pillow. and were the same that eat with our corner last summer at least some of them were. They must be the best yankees out for they behaved in a very nice manner here. They sat still and acted like men ought to. While I was sitting among them one asked me about Gurrillas I told him not to question me on that subject. for I disliked a newsbearer he then asked me if I would not report on them I replied I did not know he said Aye yes. I've got you now. They found out I was rebel sure enough They called our coffee Conscript I told them never to say Conscript to us any more. he tried to call it a draft. I told him what was the difference men's wills was not consulted at all. must be conscript. or amounted to the same. Ma and me had to talk to them Beff and D were mute as mice. They staid all night at the Dr. went a squad of them and caught Dr Harrison and Tuell. 14 came back and eat breakfast with us and then all put back to the Fort. They searched Mr W. house for the flag. twenty one eat supper and seven eat breakfast there took his gray horse. fed nearly all the Dr corn away. Bill Haskins and Jeff Gray and one genuine Fed called on Aunt Liza. rode up and inquired who lived there. then dismounted and went in Bill shaking hands and kissed his wife in Aunt Lizas house. Jeff soon inquired for corn. Bill said he had some there and then asked Aunt if he did not she said yes but you would not have had any if the friends around had not shucked it and penned it. They then went out and fed their horses out of Aunts Crib. They dined in Mrs Haskins house and left. he went back alone to breakfast next morning

Tell the boys that tis said the girls about Germantown are marrying the Yanks for three years or during the war. I dont tell it for the truth, but Cousin Manda said her informant lived there and said it was really true.

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I will send you some socks by the bearer of this letter. I sent you a letter and pocket knife which I hope you have recd ere this time

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Your Mather has sent a letter over I will enclose it in mine. you must answer it when you write again. It is thought the Federals will pass through here to-day. from Brownsville to Randolph. there is something up 20 miles from Memphis on the river. what the particulars are I'm not able to tell Jackson and Bolivar are said to be evacuated

You know I'm a dear lover of my native State and home, but I feel like now when the war ends if you are permitted to return, and feel as willing as I do we will seek a home elsewhere, for many reasons. that I could tell you if I was talking with you, but as I'm writing, I will not give any.

I'm glad to hear that you all have so much religious feeling amongst you I would like sometime to be at your prayermeetings and Sunday school if it was prudent or possible. We have as yet not been molested in our worship generally have preaching on our stated regular days, and our minister stands firm as a watchman upon the walls of Zion, proclaiming the gospel in its purity, he has never wavered but seems to growing a better Christian. he appears much interested in your welfare and appears to think more of me [illegible] he brought his wife to our house, and we love her as much as we could for limited acquaintance We have no sabbath-school on account of the unsettled condition of Country affairs. You must excuse this long scrawl that contains so little worth reading for there is nothing hardly worthy of interest afloat in the country now. I feel very anxious to see you and still try to cheer myself with the hope that I will be permitted to see you again once more. I hope the time is not far distant when you may return and remain in safety with nothing to fear from invading foes. write whenever it is so you can I ever am glad to read a line from you. All join in love to [illegible] your [illegible] affectionately Matt.

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Your Mother has sent a letter over I will enclose it in mine. you must answer it when you write again. It is thought the Federals will pass through here to day from Brownsville to Randolph. There is something up 20 miles from Memphis on the river. what the particulars are I'm not able to tell. Jackson and Bolivar are said to be evacuated

Home, June 21st, 1863

Dear Gridley:

This is sabbath morning a quiet still time and as I have no wish to go to church today, I've concluded to spend a portion of the day in penning you a few thoughts.

We are in the enjoyment of usual health at present. The health of our neighborhood is good with few exceptions. Mattie Thompson is quite sick with typhoid fever. I rec'd your letter of 25th of May yesterday evening and was very glad to hear from you again. Irather feard you would be in some hospital when I heard from you again and another cause for anxiaety, fearing you all might be send to Vicksburg. Rumor hs had you there some time ago. I sincerely hope and wish that Vicksburgh may stand until Gabriel's trump sounds the knell of time. For the way matters stands now it is very closely connected with the destiny of the southern nation by some it is thought to be the turning point. I think if the Federals are outdone there they ought to be willing to stop, but have no hope they will.

We have no very reliable information as to how things are going. Rumors of any and every kind are constantly in circulation. The Yankee papers give altogether a onesided story. In the last one I saw, it had some southren mend copied concerning Vicksburgh. There was great diffence in our favor. In that paper I see the Copperhead have nominated Valorendingham candidate for Governor and are going to demand of old Abe his return to Chicago. There is where he ought to be.

Captain Billie reached home safely much to my surprise. I heard it yesterday. I should like to see him but think it doubtful He brings thoughts of the past and you, for when you was at home last, he was too, always makes me feel sad when I do see any of the boys makes one feel my loss more sensibly and an increased wish to see the soldiers that is so dear to me.

Lizzie has not rec'd a letter from Sam in some time. You explained the reason satisfactorily. I hope he will be back in camp again. Some of our friends reach there. Lizzie will write to him and tell him the news gennerrally and particularly how bad the Yanks frightened her.

On the evening of the eight inst, we were somewhat surprised by news the Yanks are at Mr. W. He flurried round a little. Jennie went to the Dr. and mother and us girls then took our seats in time to see them in full blue riding into the Dr. lot. As soon as they had fed their horses, 14 of them came marching deliberately down on us, all privates. We sat and when they got to the door they politely bid us good evening asking for supper. Mother told them she wished them to treat us well, if they would, she would try and do her duty by them. They assured us they would. When all was seated, Ma went to give out provision to be cooked and I was left along with them. I thought they might get to pilfering through the house and my business was to watch them.

[21 June 1863]

They were from Pillow and were the same that eat with our corner last summer, at least some of them were. They must be the best Yankees out for they behaved in a very nice matter here. They sat still and acted like men ought to. While I was sitting among them, one asked me about guerillas. I told him not to question one on that subject, for I disliked a newsbearer. He then asked me if I would not report on them. I replied I did not know. He said Aye, I've got uou now, They found out I was rebel sure enough. They called our coffee conscript. I told them never to say conscript to us any more. He tried to call it a draft. I told him what was the difference men wills was not consulted at all, must be conscript or amounted to the samr. Ma and me had to talk to them. Beff and D. were mute as mice. They staid all night at the Dr. Went a squad of them and caught Dr. Harrison and Vincell. 14 came back and eat breakfast with us and then all put back to the Fort. They searched Mr. W. house for the flag. Twenty- one eat supper and seven eat breakfast there took his gray horse, fed nearly all the Dr. Corn away. Bill Haskins and Jeff Gray and one geneuine Fed called on Aunt Liza, rode up and inquiried who lived there. Then dismounted and went in, Bill shaking hands and kissed his wife in Aunt Lizas house. Jeff soon inquried for corn. Bill said he had some there and then asked Aunt if he did not, she said yes, but you would not have had any if the friends around had not shucked it and penned it. They then went out and fed their horses out of Hunts crib. They dined in Mrs Haskins house and left. He went back alone to breakfast next morning.

They left her(his wife) last winter without wood enough to make her more than a few fires anf they the kin has had her to attend to and will still have it to do for they have thair hand in the lions mouth and the best way it to take it as easy as possible. Jo Alkison eat supper with us but we did not know him from any of the rest am Im glad we did not.

There was a reinforcement sent through here to Vicksburgh. Three Hundred and those from the fort came this far with them. While we were entertaining those I've been telling you about, the town folks had the others on them. Seven of them came out from town to supper here and two others took supper with Uncle Kenben and then came back here and staid all night. Ww staid pretty close within doors that evening for it appeared as if they were plentiful. Blue coatswere straying all around in almost every direction hunting houses to eat at. they paid Mr. E a visit but he happened not to be at home After leaving in the morning one or more returned and asked for the woman that had a husband in the southern army, Lizzie told them she was the one, he then stood sword in hand and demanded the pistol she had told her if she knew what was good for here she would bring it forthwith. She told him she gave it to her pa and did not know what he had done with it and as for the pistol it was a useless thing could not shoot to damage no one c.c. So, he after shouting his authority in such an ungentlemanly manner left. Our country appears to be full of detectives. The enemy appears to be better posted in our affairs here than many of us living here are. There is a -----

[21 June 1863]

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I will send you some socks by the bearer of this letter. I sent you a letter and pocket knife which I hope you have rec'd at this time.

You know I am a dear lover of my native state and home. But I feel like now when the war ends if you are permitted to return and feel as willing as I do, we will seek or home elsewhere for many reasons that I could tell you if I was talking with you, but as I'm writing, I will not give any.
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[21 June 1863]

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are marrying the Yanks for three years or during the war.
I don't tell it for the truth, but Cousin Manda said her informant
lived there and said it was really true.

Home July 11th/1863

My. Dear Husband

Favored by divine providence with an opportunity of expressing my gratitude to you for all the testimonies of love which you have shown me, I cordially embrace it. Your last long interesting and affectionate letter of June 18th was recd in the reasonable time and the perusal of it was greatly exhilarating to my languid spirits, but to assure you how much happiness your letters confer on me would only be a repetition of what I've often told you. Most of the time of late I feel incompetent of writing anything connectedly, but if my scattering thoughts afford you pleasure in a solitary hour — if they are instrumental in dissipating one anxious sensation from your heart I shall be doubly rewarded. Whatever will gratify a husband so valuable as mine I will pen however uninteresting it might be to a stranger. There has been enough bad news reached here within the past few days to depress the spirits of all true lovers of the southern cause if we were to believe it, whilst our fears are great yet we cannot believe all the news of this week, which is Vicksburgh taken, Lee whipped, Bragg's army scattered. We think Bragg is retreating and are sorry indeed but still it may all be for the best in our case a retreat is often better than a battle against superior forces. As you know more about the war than I can tell you for we do not know much, I will only add that I cannot think of our subjugation, it is too horrible. I cling to and grasp the hope and belief of our being an independent nation.

I wrote you a letter and sent it with some socks by Mr McCaul. I hope you may get both. In that letter I told you of the yankees visit on the eighth of last month to our neighborhood and also to our house. Pottersville citizens. Mr Wilson, Dr Dickson and pa are generally the ones that suffer most when they visit our neighborhood. I tell our neighbors that we certainly have the character of being good secesh or the yankees like us very well, or we need more chastisement for. I view it as a judgment and think the more patient and resigned we are the sooner will these judgments be removed.

George, I was very glad he got a [illegible] alive. I do hope he had older [illegible] I should always have thought I did not [illegible] turning back the evening it was my duty when he was caught. I knew more than he did but for certain I felt different from him.

Lois's Lement is very nice. I think I must give Lois a copy of it. for the poor thing has been [illegible] as any woman do, and has had so few true sympathetic friends that she appreciates sympathy as much as any one

The sight of blue coats rouses my rebel blood. but when they come and go away I then think we ought to feel thankful to God for his care and protection. for they certainly can go no farther than he permits them. We have much to strengthen our belief in the providences of God. as that he often restrains the wrath of man &c For the enemy comes amongst us with wrong views. caused by the news of detectives and then act in such a harmless manner. that we are constrained to believe that it is not them but they are kept from their evil purposes by an overruling providence.

There has been a great deal of rain more than I ever knew at this season of the year, it put a stop to all farm work and has caused Gen Green to get such a strong force. that he will hardly be conquered until frosts conquers. rain has injured wheat to some extent though tis thought not seriously. yesterday and to day are strange looking days. it appears to be cloudy yet the sun is visible and shines a pale red. something like as if it was eclipsed.

Mrs Dickson and me celebrated the fourth in Confederate style. in honor of what it once was and in anticipation of our future. on Friday evening we with all her children and Henry to drive took our seats in a two horse wagon and went to Old Mr Barrells to spend that night and the fourth. We had a pleasant visit and enjoyed our ride and jolts finely. our carriage attracted the attention of all we seen those that were at work in the fields stopped to look

I was at your pa's about a week ago. they were in usual health except Maggie she had a severe spell with her throat. something like Quinzy. for a day ma almost despaired of her life but after the rising broke she soon got better. I expect Ma will write to you. she was as glad as ever to hear from you. we recd our letters while I was there. Nannie is going to school. Matt also. Lois has moved her school to Spring Hill. to have a cooler house. the one she formerly used had no shade trees around it. Lois told me she had written Johnson a lengthy letter telling him all her troubles requesting him to show it not to tell no one except Charlie. There is something I would like for you to know. perhaps Charlie will tell you.

Calvin Davis and Matt & Christopher Simonton and his wife were here on a visit yesterday we had a pleasant day's chat. all agreed on the war subject being all interested deeply. might be said of us "they are all right" which is a common phrase in our country at present.

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Pray for me dearest Gridley, for whilst it is my earnest desire to live the life of a Christian. I find it very hard to battle against the three great enemies the world the flesh and Satan, I feel like you are living more consistent Christian in the midst of temptations than I am doing at home. I must close. wishing the blessings of a kind providence to attend to you. As ever yours affect [illegible] the

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Colonel Richardson has returned with authority to act as conscripting agent in this portion of the State, can fight the enemy if he chooses or let alone. he told them at Richmond that two brigades of yankees had been sent in here after his men and failed in getting them out and it was useless for them to think of getting them for he nor no other living man could get them away from West Tenn

This conscripting in the enemy's lines is a business that I do not altogether approve of. it has done our community a great injury already. Where men can go I think it is their duty to volunteer and go without any conscripting but that is the misery of it those that ought to go willingly are the very ones that are unwilling to go.

The warfare is begun with us again. I shall not be surprised to see the blue-coats now any time. think we may expect them next week if not sooner.

It is a consolation as well as a comforting thought to me to know you are cheerfully and willingly performing your duty in the sphere you have been placed and that your confidence and faith is strong in him who is both able to preserve soul and body. How consoling has been the beloved promise when sinking under the many difficulties both present and contemplated of life "my grace is sufficient for thee" nothing but an unfaithful depraved heart to discourage me. The infinite disposer of all events has pledged his word for the safety of his believing children. Sooner will the universe sink into nothing than God fail of performing his promises. The foundation is sure, what have we to fear

I am truly glad to hear of the continuance of the revival in your midst may it continue to spread not only in our armies but may its influence extend throughout the length and breadth of this our Southern land. May not this be the dawn of the glorious morn of the millenium. with an eye of faith we pass the mountains that now obstruct the universal spread of the gospel and behold with joy unspeakable the beginning of a cloudless day the reign of peace and love."

On sabbath mornings I think of sabbath schools existing in our army We are deprived of that privilege here now. my imagination often wafts me to your school and nightly prayermeetings. these are great privileges I appreciate them now more than ever. I wander back in mind to the past when it was our privilege to enjoy these blessings. the question is often asked now why is there no prayermeetings. when the war first broke out that prayer was thought much of. I don't think it is forgotten yet but too much neglected

I wish Charlie could get to his old position as he is getting better. I'm sorry to see [illegible] neighbo[illegible] — sick [illegible]

Dr Dickson has just been down and told me to go over to Alick Hindman's Tomorrow morning [illegible] Cummins will be there to initiate the women. I will tell you who wishes to [illegible] Mrs Hindman, Mrs Dickson, Mrs Conord, and Fannie Hardin myself. I expect [illegible] will think I've taken a strange fancy or notion. One of my main reasons is if there [illegible] any guarantee of protection amongst enemies, by this institution, I want it [illegible] we seemed [illegible] more exposed than numbers of our country are. Old Dr will leave [illegible] home soon and [illegible] we have in the past just been there alone and no doubt will be again

[3] Dr Dickson has just been down and told me to go over to Nick Hindman's tomorrow morning [illegible] Cumming will be there to institute the women. I will tell you who wished to [illegible] Mrs Hindman, Mrs Dickson, Mrs Conrod and Fannie Hardin myself. I expect [illegible] will think I've taken a strange fancy or notion. One of my main reasons is, if there [illegible] any guarantee of protection amongst enemies by this institution. I want [illegible] for we seemed [illegible] more exposed than numbers of our country are. Old Dr will leave home soon and [illegible]lly we have in the past just been there alone and no doubt will be again

Colonel Richardson has returned with authority to act as conscripting agent in this portion of the State, can fight the enemy if he chooses or let alone. he told them at Richmond that two brigades of Yankees had been sent in here after his men and failed in getting them out and it was useless for them to think of getting them, for he nor no other living man could get them away from West Tenn. This conscripting in the enemy's lines is a business that I do not altogether approve of. it has done our community a great injury already. Where men can go I think it is their duty to volunteer and go without any conscripting, but that is the misery of it those that ought to go willingly are the very ones that are unwilling to go. The warfare is begun with us again. I shall not be surprised to see the blue-coats now any time, think we may expect them next week if not sooner.

It is a consolation as well as a comforting thought to me to know you are cheerfully and willingly performing your duty in the sphere you have been placed and that your confidence and faith is strong in him who is both able to preserve soul and body. How consoling has been the beloved promise when sinking under the many difficulties both present and contemplated of life "my grace is sufficient for thee," nothing but an unfaithful depraved heart to discourage me. The infinite disposer of all events has pledged his word for the safety of his believing children. Sooner will the universe sink into nothing than God fail of performing his promises. The foundation is sure what have we to fear. I am truly glad to hear of the continuance of the revival in your midst, may it continue to spread not only in our armies but may its influence extend throughout the length and breadth of this our Southern land. May not this be the dawn of the glorious morn of the millenium. with an eye of faith we pass the mountains that now obstruct the universal spread of the gospel and behold with joy unspeakable the beginning of a cloudless day ~~the reign of peace and love~~."

On sabbath mornings I think of sabbath schools [illegible] in our army. We are deprived of that priviledge here now. My imagination often wafts me to your school and nightly prayermeetings. these are great priviledges I appreciate them now more than ever. I wander back in mind to the past when it was our priviledge to enjoy these blessings. The question is often asked now why is there no prayermeetings. when the war first broke out that prayer was thought much of. I don't think it is forgotten yet but too much neglected.

I wish Charlie could get to his old position as his is getting better, Jim doing he ever did resign [illegible]

Sabbath. I have just returned from church. Mr C. preached us an excellent sermon; one just suitable at present from this text. Amos. fourth chapt latter clauses. 11th verse. read that chapter and see if is not applicable to us

I have before spoken of the dark days the strangest weather ever I've seen, to day is dark nature seems to be sympathizing or mourning with the inhabitants of earth. I feel sad and low in spirit. the news that Vicksburgh is gone comes so straight that we are compelled to think there is something of truth. I feel by giving it up as by a beloved dead friend. I find it hard though I've been now for some weeks trying to prepare myself for it. We heard from Memphis this week. the town was illuminated in honor of its surrender; all were compelled to illuminate or pay a fine. there has been no firing of cannons yet I hope will not be, for I dont think I could hardly stand or bear to hear the enemys rejoicing.

I seen Billie Campbell at church to day. I was both glad and sorry, glad to see him looking so well but the thought of the past of who I seen the last time saddening my heart. I seen Billie. he promised to pay us a visit this week. but I'm afraid the enemy will come and he will be afraid to come to their stomping ground. he does not expect to stay longer than a few days.

I with several other ladies expected to have joined the Masons yesterday but Mr Cummins failed for some reason to come. therefore we had to defer the matter when I find out the secret perhaps I will tell you when I see you.

Mrs McDill with tears in her eyes asked me if you told me about George. I told her I thought her sons would ever find friends though they were strangers, for their mother is so good and kind to both foe and friend. Minnie and Ann have taken their hoes and work in the field. what we may all have to do ere long if this war continues. for whilst some are making independent fortunes others are losing heavily. Mr McDill is one who has suffered as much or more than any of our community according to his ability.

Lizzie is here on a visit I reckon she will write to Bro Sam. herself and children are well except Willie. I hope he will soon be better.

I very much wish Pa could ride horseback. I would soon get him off to see you and ~~Sam I cannot insist on him to attempt to go in a buggy for it would not be safe.~~

We are in the enjoyment of only moderate health. pretty smart complaining amongst us though none down bedfast. I've been very near sick with a cold. but am better now except toothache which is bad company to have of nights. I was truly glad to know your health was improving. as long as you can keep well. I am willing for you to do what is required of you cannot be very well reconciled to your being a soldier enduring so many privations and hardships when your health is not good. I comfort myself or try to that you will, preserved through out and returned again to me and all who love you. I'm trying to live in hope of a brighter day a day when a peace shall be established which shall be honoring to God and beneficial to man

Read at top of this page

I believe there is a future not far distant when the actions & conduct of men will be looked into. and I want you to acquit yourself honorably as I [illegible] believe you will. Let us hold on to the South and her cause. though our [illegible] getting slim I hope we are on the right side. but whether we are right or whether [illegible] are wrong? whether we conquer or are conquered, I feel that all Southern [illegible] citizens ought to, to be for the Cause that gave them birth. Certainly will be as [illegible] [illegible] to die a friend and far more so than to [illegible] the name of enemies

[4]

I never seen one woman of this [illegible] which would [illegible] [illegible] gives less though good. the wife of Doctor [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] called that [illegible]

Home July 11th, 1863

My dear Husband:

Favored by devine providence with an opportunity of expressing my gratitude to you for all the testimonices of love which you have shown me, I cordially embrace it.
Your last long interesting and affectionate letter of June 18th was rec'd in reasonable time and the perusual of it was really exilirviting to my langarid spirits. But to assure you how much happiness your letters cinfer on me would only be a repetion of what I've often told you.
Most of the time of late I feel incompetent of writing anything correctedly, but if my scattering thoughts afford you pleasure in a solitary hour, if they are instrumental in dissapating one anxious sensation from your heart, I shall be doubly rewarded. Whoever will gratify a husband so valuable as mine, I will pen however uninteresting it might be to a stranger. There has been enough bad news reached here within the past few days to depress the spirits of all true lovers of the southern cause. If we were to beleive it whilst our fears are great, yet we cannot believe all the news of this week which is biz; Vicksburgh taken, Lee whipped, Bragg's army scattered. We think Bragg's retreating and are sorry indeed, but still it may all be for the best in our case a retreat is often better than a battle against superior forces.
As you know more about the war than I can tell you for we do not know much I will only add that I cannot think of subpregation, it is too horrible. I cling to and grasp the hope and belief of our being an independent nation.
I wrote you a letter and sent it with some socks by Mr. McCaul.
I hope you may get both. In that letter I told you of the Yankees visit on the eight of last month to our neighborhood and also to our house. Potersville citizens, Mr. Wilson, Dr. Dickson and pa are generally the ones that suffer most when they visit our neighborhood.
I tell our neighbors that we certainly have the character of being good secesh or the Yankees like us very well or we rec'd more chastisement, for I view it as a judgement and think the more patient and resigned we are, the sooner will these judgements be removed.
The sight of blue coats rouses my rebel blood, but when they come and go away I then think we ought to feel thankful to God for his care and protection for they certainley can go farther than he permits them. We have much strengthen our belief in the providences of God or that he often restrains the wrath of man.
For the enemy comes amongst us with wrong viens caused by the news of detectives and then act in such a harmless manner that we are construed to believed that it is not them but they are kept from their evil purposes by an overruling providence.
There has been a great deal of rain, more than I ever knew at this season of the

[11 July 1863]

year. It put a stop to all farm work and has caused Ge, Green to get such a strong force that he will hardly be conquered until frosts conquers. Rain has injured wheat to some extent though tis thought not seriously. Yesterday and today are strange looking days. It appears to be cloudy yet the sun is visible and shines a pale red something like as if it was eclipsed.

Mrs. Dickson and me celebrated the fourth in Confederate style in honor of what it once was and in anticipation of our future. On Friday evening we with all her children and Henry to drive took our seats in a two horse wagon and went to old Mr. Barretts to spend that night and the fourth. We had a pleasant visit and enjoyed our ride and jolts finely. Our carriage attracted the attention of all we seen, those that were at work in the fields stopped to look.

I was at you pa's about a week ago. They were in usual health except Maggie. She had a severe spell with her throat, something like quinzy. For a day ma almost despaired of her life, but after the rising broke, she soon got better. I expect ma will write to you. She was glad as ever to hear from you. We rec'd our letters while I was there. Nannie is going to school. Matt also. Lois has moved her school to Spring Hill to have a cooler house. The one she formely used had no shade trees around it. Lois told me she had written Johnson a lengthly letter telling him all her troubles, requesting him to show or not to tell no one except Charlie. There is something I would like for you to know perhaps Charlie will tell you.

Calvin Davis and Matt Christopher Simonton and his wife were here on a visit. Ysterday we had a pleasant day's chat. All agreed on the war subject, being all interested deeply might be said of us. They are right which is a common phrase in our country at present.

Colonel Richardson has returned with authority to act as conscripting agent in this portion of the state. Can fight the enemy id he chooses or let alone. He told them at Richmond that two brigades of Yankees had been sent in here after his men and foiled in getting them out and it was useless for them to think of getting them for he nor no other living man could get them away from West Tenn. This conscripting in the enemy's line is a business that I do not altogether approve of. It has done our community a great injury already. Where men can go I think it is their duty to volunteer and go without any conscripting, but that is the misery of it. Thise that ought to be willing are the very ones that are unwilling to go. The warfare is begun with us again. I shall not be surprised to see the blue coats now anytime, think we may expect them next week if not sooner.

It is a consolation as well as a comforting thought to me to know you are cheerfully and willingly performing your duty in the sphere you have been placed and that you confidence and faith is strong in him who is both able to preserve soul and body. How consoling has been the beloved promise when sinking under the many difficulties both present and contempleted of live, my grace is sufficient for thee, nothing but an unfaithful deprived heart to discourage me. The infinite disposes of all events has pledged his word for the safety of his beleiving children. Sooner will the universe sink into nothing than God fail of performing his promises. The foundation is sure what have we to fear.

I am truely glad to hear of the continuance of the revival in your midst.

May it continue to spread not only in our armies but may its influence extend throughout the

[11 July 1863]

length and breadth of this our southern land. May not this be the dawn
of the glorius morn of the millenium with an eye of faith. We pass the mountains
that now obstruct the unversal spread of the gospel and behold with joy
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On sabbath mornings, I think of sabbath schools being in our army.
We are deprived of that priviledge here now. My imagination often ----
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I appreciate them now more than ever. I wander back in mind to the
past when it was our priviledge to enjoys these blessings. The question is often
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I feel sad and low in spirit. The news that Vicksburgh is gone comes so straight
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There has been a firing of cannons, yey I hope will not be for. I don't think I could
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I seen Billie Campbell at church today. I was both glad and sorry; glad to
see him looking so well, but the thought of the past of who I seen. The last time
I seen Billie he saddened my heart, he promised to pay us a visit this week, but I'm afraid the
enemy will come and he will be afraid to come to their stomping ground.
He does not expect to stay longer than a few days.
I with several other ladies expected to have joined the masons yesterday, but Mrs.
Cummins failed for some reason to come, therefore we had to defer the matter.
When I find out the secret perhaps I will tell you when I see you.
Mrs. McGill with tears in her eyes asked if you told me about George. I told her I thought
her sons would ever find friends ever though they were strangers, for their mother is so
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[11 July 1863]

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out and returned again to me and all who love you. I'm trying to live in hope of a brighter day. A day when a peace shall be established which shall be honoring to God and benefical to man -read at top of this page

I believe there is a future not far distant when the actions & conduct of men will be looked into and I want you to acquit yourself honorably s I firmly believe you will.
Let us hold on to the south and her cause, though our fouritude is getting slim.
I hope we are on the right side, but whether we are right or whether we are wrong, whether we conquer or are conquered, I feel that all souther born citizens ought to be for the land that gave them birth, certainly will be as able to be a friend and far more so than to-- the name of enemies
I ever seen. One women often in my presence gives her the tile of widow Lois which wounds me to hear, but I don't think Lois has ever known she was called that and never will from me.
Tell George I was very glad he got back to camp alive. If he had died I should always have thought I did not do my duty in turning him back the evening he was caught.
I knew no more than he did but I'm certain I felt different from him.
Lois Lament is very nice. I think I must give Lois a copy of it for the poor thing has been battered
around so and has had so few sympothetic friends that she appreciates sympothy as much as anyone.
I wish Charlie could get to his old position as he is getting better. I'm sorry he ever did resign. Linda is down at her niece, but I have not seen her. I heard she has been quite sick up at Bobs.
Dr. Dickson has just been down and told me to go over to Alick Hindmans to-morrow morning. Mr. Cummins will be there to initiate the women. I will tell you who wishes to see Mrs. Hindman, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Couord and Fannie Hardin myself. I expect you will think I've taken a strange fancy or notion. One of my main reasons is of there is any guarantee of protection amongst enimies by this institution. I want it for we seem to more exposed than numbers of our country are. Old Dr. will leave home soon and finally we have in the past just been there along and no doubt will be again. Pray for me dearet Gridley for whilst it is my earnest desire to live the life of a Christain, I find it very hard to battle against three great enemies in the world, the flesh and satan. I feel like you are being a more consistent christian in the midst of tempations than I am doing at home. I must close,wishing all the blessings of a kind providence to attend to you. As ever yours affectionate Mattie.

Sabbath — 31st. We are in usual health — Lizzie was quite sick last friday but was better this morning when I left — I stayed with her last night & today is her chill day but I hope she will miss it. Dove is sick with chills also. Hattie was only fine there today with chills yesterday. The sudden change in the weather is going to cause sickness I fear.
I will enclose Betti's letter — I expect you to hand it to Billie.

Home. Aug. 27th 1863.

My Dear Husband;

Yours of July 31st was recd in reasonable time and I was truly glad to hear you was still moving [illegible] in Dixie. for I had some anxiety fearing you might have been captured on the retreat. It is well for us at home that we do not know the true condition of our friends who are in the army. had I known a retreat was on hands. and you do so well. I should have felt unhappy and uneasy. but after you had gotten through as well as you did. I could bear it very well.

The health of our family is good as usual except Jack. he came quite near dying. but is now on the mend. he had the flux. there is two cases in Dr D. family and I shall not be surprised if we have other cases in our family. To day is remarkably cool for this month. I'm sitting by the fire writing and it feels very comfortable. Our Presbytery met at Dr Carr's church last week had an interesting meeting and better attendance of the members than usual. Mr C. tells us some of our ministers have suffered greatly from the oppression of the enemy. Dr Gray most of any. this good man has buried two children. and had almost all his worldly possessions swept away. and the enemy in and about his house for twelve months past. his language was he said during this time daily and almost hourly Cast thy care upon the Lord for he careth for thee. Last sunday night Mr Cater preached at our church on monday night our pastor preached. I had quite a nice ride in his buggy. as he spent the night with us.

Next Presbytery meets at our church next April. or rather is appointed there I hope there may be a change for the better again that time. who knows but what peace may be made and our husbands and brothers be here again that time. Sometimes I think of our soldiers returning home. and forget I can hardly realize that any have gone. but then there comes the sad reality. all will never return who left us. for how often the sad news comes to us of their deaths until we as a community may with the poet say Friend after friend departs. Oh who hath not lost a friend;

Dick Adkins was taken prisoner last june was taken sick took the oath and was trying to get home. succeeded in getting in the neighborhood and died the same night of his arrival. which was sometime during week before last. Rebekah Alexander died last week. she had been sick for some time but got better then relapsed. she was perfectly resigned to death and conversed beautifully, so I heard for I did not get to see her while sick.

Home. Aug. 27th 1863.

My Dear Husband;

Yours of July 31st was rec'd in reasonable time and I was truly glad to hear you was still among the living in Dixie. for I had some anxiety fearing you might have been captured on the retreat. It is well for us at home that we do not know the true condition of our friends who are in the army. had I known a retreat was on hands. and you so unwell. I should have felt unhappy and uneasy. but after you had gotten through as well as you did. I could bear it very well.

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[Margin notes:] If the courier from Pikeville [illegible] ... gets in there. they will [illegible] ... I think it [illegible] ... before a great while

[Right margin:] [illegible] letters

I will enclose Buff's letter in mine
expect you to hand it to Billie.

31st We are in usual health. Lizzie was quite sick last Friday but was better this morning when I left. I stayed with her last night to day is her chill day but I hope she will miss it. Dove is sick with chills also. Mary was only five there day with chills yesterday. The sudden change in the weather is going to cause sickness I fear

Last friday was very generally observed as a day of fasting and prayer througout our country. The enemy came out through Covington on thursday evening and they were expected through our neighborhood though they did not come. There was a large congregation assembled at our church but Mr C. failed to come. and there was short prayermeeting and all hurried away to their homes. It was thought that day that the enemy's design in coming out was to prevent public worship but since that we have good reason to think they were in pursuit of Col. Green. Many many prayers have been made for our soldiers and the southren cause during the past week. and may God hear the cry of his people and speedily deliver us from those who are now oppressing us so heavily.

There is no war news to be heard now. the yankee papers would make one beleive if they could by their proud boastings that they were carrying things just as they wished and accomplish any and everything. they have gotten so high that I think their day of adversity and humiliation is nigh at hand if we cannot be the instrument of punishing them some other nation will certainly do it. The last times I saw said they were on the brink of war with England and France. and that those two powers would unite with the South against them. if this be really so which many of our men of judgment are getting to beleive is something true. our independence will be acknowledged some time sooner than many is or has been expecting. I cannot give up our cause though many are saying it is hopelessly gone. for I think there will be in the order of providence some way provided for our deliverance. Subdugation how can we know it. Even the enemy is working for us to induce a people who have once tasted the sweets of independence to return to the condition of slaves it is necessary not only to conquer their armies but their words and affections must be subdued. How is it with our invaders. officers as well privates of the Federal army are so intent the one on amassing fortunes the other on ~~[illegible]~~ enriching by plundering themselves that no regard is paid to reunion. instead of soothing they delight in injuring and oppressing and they are actually doing more for our cause than our armies could possibly do were our enemies guided by maxims of sound policy. As it is the love of southern liberty and our cause most abounds where the enemy footprints of desolation are most visible and oppression

Viola has been to see us. has now gone back to Bob's. she told me a great deal to tell you to tell Charlie. but as he has gone and my sheet is pretty near full. I will just say if Charlie was here one or two talks would bring them all right. she just wants the fun of fixing over their love. This is my belief but yet I may be mistaken. though I'm not pretty mistaken about this she loves him and if ever she gets the fun tie of her womans heart

I will send you back ten dollars of Confederate money and the gold pieces for change

Last friday was very generally observed as a day of fasting and prayer throughout our country. The enemy came out through Covington on thursday evening and they were expected through our neighborhood, though they did not come. There was a large congregation assembled at our church. but Mr C. failed to come. and there was short prayermeeting and all hurried away to their homes. It was thought that day that the enemy's design in coming out was to prevent public worship but since that we have good reason to think they were in pursuit of Col. Green. Many many prayers have been made for our soldiers and the Southern cause during the past week. and may God hear the cry of his people and speedily deliver us from those who are now oppressing us so heavily.

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Bnola has been to see us, has now gone back to Bob's. she told me a great deal to tell you to tell Charlie. but as he has gone and my sheet is pretty near full. I will just say if Charlie was here one or two talks would bring them all right. she just wants the fun of fixing over their love. This is my belief but yet I may be mistaken. though I'm not mistaken about this she loves him and if ever she quits him tis not her womans heart that causes it

Reverses we may expect though they must be intended for our good if we could think of them as we should do. The scripture says the love of money is the root of all evil and the love of it I fear is the root of our many misfortunes of late. instead of our men putting their energies in defence of their country they contentedly remain at home intent on amassing fortunes and many of them bartering the dear rights and principles that so many brave and noble ones are bleeding and dying to obtain. what a help and blessing it would be if all felt interested and would willingly and cheerfully perform the duty that they most certainly do owe to this their country in this her great struggle. if this could be the feeling we would hear of advancing armies instead of retreats; We ought to use the means we cannot expect God to bless us unless we do. I want you to tell me if Pemberton was a deserter from the Federal army to ours. I've heard so. If I was at the head of affairs never should put a yankee in no responsible position for my confidence in that race is none, no matter how loud they may talk of their southern principles. it has been and still my belief is that the surrender of Vicksburgh on the fourth was a premeditated and well understood affair.

The yankees have been all around us. but one crowd has been in our neighborhood and that just merely passed through town on to Elick Hindman's and camped. used him up about forage, meat chickens &c. then went on to Fort Pillow. A negro raid numbering one hundred and fifty with forty whites came as near us as Mt Zion. they did but little or no damage. captured Jim Hunter placed him in the centre of their column and very few pitied him for he did not try to avoid them and then took the oath so it is said dont know how true it is. southern blood was fever heat when the negro raid came. is it not enough to rouse everyone. have you seen the account of murder of one entire white family by 18teen negro soldiers of Island ten. This is the kind of a warfare we may expect if negroes are armed and then officered by officers void of principle or the common feeling of humanity. and might we not say backed by an abolition nation who not only seek brutal uncivilized mode of warring but would glory in blotting us from the face of the earth.

We hear that some of Ritchie boys have [illegible] is all gone I hope they [illegible] [illegible] that there is some big lies written and told [illegible] boys. I think [illegible] is doing his full share of it [illegible] as negroes [illegible] [illegible] no right to interfere [illegible] affairs in a number of cases

Colonel Ritchie has not returned yet. a goodly number is there and recruiting officers does not seem to get them out very fast. some think the command will be back. they may come in for a short time but there staying there looks rather improbable. for the enemy is determined upon their staying out. You all must not be down on the Rangers for they are doing double service for their country. Mr Robertson has two little boys. now dont be telling this to the boys for they will think me rude in writing.

A great many of the churches are being visited by revivals. but ours stands quite cold. you must all pray for us to be revived and refreshed. The County of Shelby is being revived at almost all their churches. Jinnie attended a protracted meeting for a week at New Salem there was some [illegible] or thirty conversions. And there is one going on at Nudville some thirty were at the anxious seat on monday.

I want you in your reply to give me a schedule of your clothing [illegible] whether you need more if so try to get Dump in the notion of carrying them to you. Mc aul is here with Sams clothes and your socks and no probability of his going anytime soon. Some of the boys wrote like something eat was scarce. I know you all are bound to have hard times but I sincerely hope you may never suffer. Your retreat was a sad calamity but still it was a necessity and we must bear these trials though they are hard indeed but let us try to submit to these present sufferings and trials and hardships with christian resignation and fortitude. living in hope of this our day of adversity [illegible] in God's own good time and way.

John Sterling and Jane Adams were married last week. On sabbath last early in the morning Neil Mc lelland and Pat Holkins were married. the young folks are growing tired of waiting for the war to end so you need not be surprised to hear of marriages occasionally now. Your pa's family were well last sabbath night. I reckon Ma will write to you. I think perhaps I shall go over on a visit this week as this is the anniversary of Sallies death. I know she has felt quite lonely and sad I've thought often of it to day.

I seen Lois at church Sunday night. wanted her to come home with me. but her school required her so early next morning she could not come she and Millie both have as much as they can attend to some fifty scholars. write me all you think would be interesting about war news. and then about yourself how you have felt since your march. have you had the rheumatism anymore

&c. All join in love to you. yours in the bond of affection Mattie

If you think it prudent for a woman to visit our army, it is [illegible] from Shelby Co [illegible] have made a safe trip through [illegible] will [illegible] to try [illegible]

Home Aug. 27th, 1863

My Dear Husband:

Yours of July 31st was rec'd in reasonable time and I was truly glad to hear you was still among the living and in Dixie, for I had some anxiety fearing you might have been captured on the retreat. It is well for us at home that we do not know the true condition of our friends who are in the army. Had I known a retreat was on hand and you so unwell, I should have felt so unhappy and uneasy, but after you had gotten through as well as you did, I could bear it very well.

The health of our family is good as usual except Jack. He came quite near dying, but is now on the mend. He had the flu. There is two cases in Dr. D. family and I shall not be surprised if we have other cases in our family. Today is remarkably cool for this month. I'm sitting by the fire writing and it feels very comfortable. Our Presbytery met at Dr. Carr's church last week; had an interesting meeting and better attendance of the members than usual. Mr. C. tells us some of our ministers have suffered greatly from the oppresion of the enemy, Dr. Graz, most of any. This good man has buried two children and had almost all his earthly possessions swept away and the enemy in and about his house for twelve months past. His language was he said during this time daily and almost hourly: "cast thy care upon the lord for he careth for thee." Last Sunday night. Mr. Cater preached at our church, on Monday night our pastor preached. I had quite a nice ride in his buggy as he spend the night with us.

Next Prebysterz meets at our church next April or rather is appointed there. I hope there may be a change for the better again that time. Who knows but what peace may be made and our husbands and brothers be here agai that time. Sometimes I think of our soldiers returning home and forget I can hardly realize that any have gone, but then comes the reality. All will never return who left us for how often the sad news comes to us of their deaths. Until we as a community may with the poet say friend after friend departs. Oh who hath not lost a friend. Dick Adkins was taken prisoner last June, was taken sick, took the oath and was trying to get home, succeeded in getting in the neighborhood and died the same night of his arrival, which was sometime during week before last. Bekkah Alexander died last week. She had been sick for some time but got better then relapsed. She was perfectly resigned to death and conversed beautifully. So I heard for I never got to see her while sick.

Last Friday was very generally observed as a day of fasting and prayer throughout our country. The enemy came out through Covington on Thursday evening and they ware expected through our neighborhood though they did not come. There was a large congregation assembled at our church, but Mr. C. failed to come and there was short prayermeeting and all hurried away to their homes. It was thought that day that the enemy's desighed in coming out was to prevent worship but

[c7 Aug 1863]

since that we have good reason to think they were in pursuit of Col. Green.
Many many prayers have been made for our soldiers and the southern cause during the past week and may God hear the cry of his people and speedily deliver us from those who are now opressing us so heavily.
There is no war news to be heard now. The Yankee papers would make one believe if they could by their proud boastings that they were carrying things just as they wished; can accomplishe any and everything. They have gotten so high that I think their day of advasity and humiliation is nigh at hand. If we cannot be the instrument of punishing them, some other nation will certainly do it. The last times I saw said they were on the brink of war with England and France and that those two powers would unite with the South against them. If this be really so, which many of our men of judgement are getting to believe, is something true. Our independence will be acknowledged some time sooner than manyis or has been expecting. I cannot give up our cause, though many are saying it is hopelessly gone, for I think there will be in order of providence some way provided for our deliverance. Subolugation; how can we know it. Even the enemy is working for us to induce a people who have once tasted the sweets of independence to return to the condition of slaves, it is necessary not only to conquer their armies but their words and affections must be subdues. How is it with our invaders officers as well, privates of the Federal army are so intent; the one on amassing fortunes, the other on enriching themselves by plundering, that no regard is paid to reunion; instead of soothing they enlight in injuring and opressing and they are actually doing more for our cause.

Reverses we may expect though they must be intended for our good if we could think of them as we should do. The scriptures says the love of money is the root of all evil and the love of it I fear is the root of our many misfortunes of late; instead of our men putting their energies in defense of their country, they contendly remained at home intent on amassing fortunes and many of them bartering the dear rights and principles that so many brave and noble ones are bleeding and dying to obtain. What a help and blessing it would be if all felt interested and would willingly and cheerfully perform the duty that they most certainly do owe to this their country in this her great struggle. If this could be the feeling, we would hear of advancing armies instead of retreats, We ought to use the means. We cannot expect God to bless us unless we do. I want you to tell me if Pemberton was a deserter from the Federal army to ours. I've heard so. If I was at the head of affairs never should put a Yankee in so responsible position for my confidence in that race is none, no matter how loud they may talk of their southern principles. It has been and still is my belief that the surrender of Vicksburgh on the fourth was a premediated and well understood affair.
The Yankees have been all around us, but one crowd has been in our neighborhood and that just merly passed through town on to Elick Hindman and camped, used him up about forage, meat,

[27 Aug. 1863]

chickens & ect., then went on to Fort Pillow. A negro raid numbering one hundred and fifty with fourty whites came as near us as Mt. Zion. They did but little or no damage; captured Jim Hunter, placed him in the centre of their column and very few pitied him for he did not try to avoid them and then took the oath so it is said don't know how true it is. Southern blood was fever heat when the negro raid come. Is it not enough to rouse everyone. Have you seen account of the murder of one entire white family by 18teen negro soldiers of Island Ten. This is the kind of a warfare we may expect if negroes are armed and then officered by officers void of principle or the common feeling of humanity and might we not say backed by the abolition nation who not only seek brutal uncivilized mode of warring, but would glory in blotting us from the face of the earth.

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A great many of the churches are being visted by revivals, but our stands quite cold. You must all pray for us to be revived and refreshed. The county of Shelby is being revived at almost all their churches. Jinnie attended a protracted meeting for a week at New Salem. There was some twenty or thirty conversions. And there is one going on at Mudville; some thirty were at the anxious seat on Monday.
I want you in your reply to give me a schedule of your clothing and whether you need more; if so, try to get Dump in the notion of carrying them to you. Mcaul is here with Sam's clothes and your socks and no probility of his going anytime soon. Some of the boys wrote like something to eat was scarce. I know you all are bound to have hard times but I sincerly hope you may never suffer. Your retreat was a sad calamity, but still it was as necessitly and we must bear these trails though they are hard indeed, but let us try to submit to these present sufferings and trails and hardships with christain resiganition and fortitude, living in hope of this our day of adversity finding in God's own good time and way.
John Sterling and Jane Adams weer marries last week on Sabbath last. Early in the morning Neil Mclellam and Pat Holkins were married. The young folks are growing tired of waiting for the war to end so you need not be surprised to hear of marriages occaionally now. Your pa's family were well last sabbath night. I reckon ma will write to you. I think perhaps I shall go over on a visit this week as this is the anniversary of Sallie's death. I know she has felt quite lonely and sad. I've thought often of it today.
I seen Lois at church Sunday night. Wanted her to come home with me, but her school required her so early next morning she could not come. She and Billie both have as much as they can attend to some fifty scholars. Write me

[27 Aug. 1863]

all you think would be interesting about war news and then about yourself.
How you have felt since your march, have you had the rheumatisms anymore?
W.C. hill join in love to you. Yours in the bond of affection, Mattie.

If you think it prudent for women to visit our army. Is
it any satifaction to either party? Some ladies from Shelby County have made a safe trip through. It will perhaps encourage others to try it.
Dump will not carry letters without pay in advance.
The courier from Ritchie brings discourageing news about Charlestown, thinks it bound to go up. If the enemy gets in there, they will desolate and destroy everything as they go, should not be surprised if our men has to take the oath before a great while.
Sabbath 31st.
I will enclose Beff's letter in mine, spect you to hand it to Billie.
We are in usual health. Lizzie was quite sick last Friday, but was better this morning when I left. I staid with her last night. Today in her chill often, but I hope she will miss it. Dove is sick with chills also. There was only five there down with chills yesterday. The sudden change in the weather is going to cause sickness I fear.
Linda has been to see us, has now gone back to Bob's. She told me a great deal to tell you to tell Charlie, but as he has gone and my
sheet is pretty near full, I will just say if Charlie was hear one or two talks would bring them all right. She just wants the fun of fixing over their love. This is my belief, but yet I may be mistaken though I'm not of his thoughts. I expect mistaken about this, she loves him and if ever she quits him tis not her woman heart that causes it.
I will send you back ten dollars of confederate money and 2 1/2 gold piece for change.
We hear that some of Ritchie boys have gone to see you. I hope they will give you all the news and tell the truth/ I've come to conclusion that there is some big lies written and told to our boys. I think Dump is doing his full share of it as regards sweethearts affairs in a number of cases
where he has no right to interfere.

#5029-z
H. M. LYNN
PAPERS

1864-1865

Folder 4 of 5

Sal[illegible]
Feb. 1st 1864

Dear Mattie

I am once again surrounded by old familiar faces. I reached my command in safety on last Friday evening. I need not say I was welcome. I have scarcely had a breathing spell since I landed. We found the boys all well and in excellent spirits. They stood all on the 22nd with uncovered heads & an uplifted hands swore to serve their country until the end of the war. All the Tennesseans have reinlisted. She is still the volunteer State. Other troops are also reinlisting, but ours was the first. We will have but little use for conscription among the old troops.

You no doubt felt very uneasy about us, but I hope you have been relieved of your anxiety before this time. We did not cross until sabbath night after we left home. We could not make all our arrangements to cross Friday night and Saturday night when we started and were in three miles of the road we heard two signals and an alarm and concluded it would be dangerous to attempt crossing that night as the enemy would on account of the alarm be more watchful. We lay concealed until next night and made it in safety although we had quite a rough time of it— being in the rain all day and traveling all night in it, swimming two streams (Wolf and another south of the road) during the night. We had to stop when the moon went down although we were not more than three miles south of the line. We took quarters in an old waste house— built a fire and dried ourselves. At dawn we started and reached Cold Water by 9 o'clock but could not cross on account of high water. We had to go up the stream for about eight miles where we

crossed on a bridge and put up for the night about two miles south of the stream. Afterwards we traveled from twenty to twenty five miles a day until we reached Okolona which we did on Friday evening. We boxed our plunder and left there on Monday morning and missed but one connection on the way, which was at Selma. I attempted to have my likeness taken but as I could not get one to please me I would not have it. I was very sorry but I could not think to pay $18.00 for a picture which I did not believe looked anything like me.

I did not have any trouble in selling my nag for $500.00 bridle and saddle included. If I had had time I think I could have sold them for $50.00 or $100.00 more than I did. Mrs W. was very proud of her cards

Feb 2nd On yesterday I could not write and today I fear I am doomed to another failure. I would like to write you a long interesting letter, but there is here an utter dearth of news. There is no war news. The weather is fine and the roads fast improving, and, if we have no more bad weather we may expect an early spring campaign.

Capt Howard has resigned and gone home, consequently they have had a chance, as the company was not consolidated with no other, for the election of another Lieutenant which was given to Brother Sains. He has not gone before the board of examination. We have had no election on account of consolidation. Whether our army will remain under the same organization depends upon the action of Congress. The troops generally would prefer that it should - there will however be some changes. As I will probably have an opportunity again soon of writing I will close for the present. Give my love to all and believe me as ever

Your devoted husband H M Lynn

Dalton, [Georgia]
Feb 1st, 1864

Dear Mattie

I am once again surrounded by old familiar faces. I reached my command in safety on last Friday evening. I need not say I was welcome. I have had a breathing spell since I landed. We found the boys all well and in excellent spirits. They have all on the 22nd with uncovered heads an[d] uplifted hands swore to serve their country until the end of the war. All the Tennesseans have reinlisted. She is still the volunteer state. Other troops are also reinlisting, but ours was the first. We will have but little use for conscription among the old troops Yoy no doubt felt very uneasy about us, but I hope you have been relieved of your anxiety befor this time. We did not cross over until sabbath night after we left home. We could not make all our arrangements to cross Friday night and Saturday night when we started and were in three miles of the road we heard two signals and an alarm and concluded it would be dangerous to attempt crossing that night as the enemy would on account of the alarm be now watchful. We lay concealed until next night and made it in safety. Although we had quite a rough time of it, swiming two Streams(wolf and another south of the road) during the night. We had to stop when themoon went down although we were not more than three miles south of the line we took quarters in an old waste house, built a fire and dried our selves. At dawn we started and reached coldwaterby 9 oclock, but could not cross on account of high water. We had to go up the stream for about eight miles where we

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[1 Feb 1864]

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Your devoted husband
H.M. Lynn

7-1-1864

Dawson Hospital
Greensboro, Ga
July 1st

Dear Mattie.

It is now 10 o'clock. All around is hushed in sleep. The stars, those silent wanderers of that boundless breadth of blue, have brought the happy time when lovers meet in some lone spot where all is silence, save their own sighs, or the unequal beating of their young hearts stirred by tender wishes, as hand meets hand, and meeting glances tell the tale of love untold before.

I have just finished reading your four last letters, and they, with the calm stillness that surrounds me, have begotten in me a feeling akin to that which you yourself experienced on the evening of that beautiful [illegible] Sabbath, the 8th of May. "The chain where-with we are so dearly bound [illegible] at Memory's touch" and surely there is communion between congenial spirits for most assuredly,

"Although not seen by human sight,
I feel thy spirit hovering near,
... felt, as I feel the light
... trembles through the atmosphere.
... spirit though with me a moment
ago is now flying o'er hilltop and o'er mountain, through valley and through dale and is now gamboling with its kindred spirits 'mid flowers and the ... light of night's peaceful watchers.

"I hear a voice on every breeze;
That makes to mine its low replies—
A voice, all low and sweet like thine"

I do not fear that you will ... forget me, for our love has stood the fiery test of time, and fond memory will always unite our spirits; though Fate smote us early with her poisoned arrows, she missed ... aim, and may only break the hearts she can never part. How can hearts be parted that are one, and joined by heaven's hand? Hope may wither and perish, but it will only leave the affections

chastened and purified. True love never dies.

"If carelessly within thy heart
I ever placed a thorn
If e'er I gave thee needless pain,
Forget it now dear one.
Some youthful error may have risen
When I might know it not—
Think only of my virtues now—
And be the rest forgot."

I am happy now, and would revel eternally amid these bright lovely scenes of my own imagining, but the sharp tick of a time piece and the heavy breathing of some sick comrade remind that I am still in a land of material things. My dream is gone. The spell is broken, and I am in a world of realities and am reminded of a duty I was requested to perform. It is eleven o'clock I must toll the hour of the night. One;—two;—(oh! how the cold chills run o'er my soul) three;—four;—(my heart is freezing) five;—six;—(where am I?

what am I doing? (Seven,- eight,-) Is the world all dead, and am I [illegible] its funeral knell) nine,- ten (not yet, some one calls) eleven. (See [illegible] the hour) I am still alive, and there are those around me who still speak and breathe. I will now retire to my single bed; commit myself to Him who slumbers not, nor sleeps and yield my body to Morpheus' soft embrace. And oh! God take charge of my kindred spirit too!

July 2nd I will this morning continue my letter, but I will try and confine myself to more sober realities than I did last night.

Although I have acknowledged the receipt of all your letters except your last of the 17th of May there are many things in them deserving of notice, which, owing to circumstances, have been passed over heretofore in silence. You will doubtless wonder why I was so silent about many things of which you spoke in your letters

I will not try to bring them up 5th
in order but will speak of [illegible]
as they recur to my mind.
First you spoke of the joke of [illegible]
Em and Mary Hall I must confess
myself as much astonished at it as
you possibly could have been, and
at first felt an extreme sense of
shame, but a little time and reason
restored me to self-possession. I felt
that I and my beloved wife had
as much right to a free familiarity in
conversation and correspondence as brother
and sister or those of any other relation
of life.
I remember very well the history of
elder Sniffles and widow Bedott and
was much amused at Biff's comparison
It is indeed an applicable one.
One day while on the fall march
from Dalton and in company with
Pine-Knot I told him of your [illegible]
besieging Ft-Rhodes His reply was,
that he was very much surprised

and that he had only feared that
[illegible] would only be too successful
[illegible] Dowel for the good of those
[illegible] had been less fortunate
[illegible] would be glad to know what
has become of my old friend Turner
and his family. Miss Hattie and two
sisters left Dalton a few days after
we started to Demopolis last Feb. and
came to Covington Ga. or its vicinity —
she to teaching and they to go to
school. I saw Mrs T. about 12 oclock
the night before we left (we left at
[illegible] o'clock) I asked and obtained
permission to carry her some broken
sacks of meal that had been set
aside fearing we would not have cars
enough to take it all. I got Cousin
[illegible] and J. R. McC. and we selected
[illegible] of the best — making in all some
[illegible] five bushels and carried them
to her. We found her and old Mrs
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]son (mother of Hutchenson of
[illegible] [illegible] Co. Memp. Times) apparently in

in much trouble. She [illegible] alone with three small children [illegible] having gone South on business [illegible] days before. We were soon admitted and our meal thankfully received. She told me she had not a [illegible] of meal or flour in her house and that until we came in she had not the least idea when or where she would get any more. I felt then as if I had not lived altogether in vain. I suppose Mr T. to be still South of our lines as I do not think it would be possible for him to return then or since.

Your criticism on my photograph was just and very correct. You pointed out the very objection of which I spoke, but that was no fault of mine. The artist should have cut them off at the waist.

How my mouth watered while I read of the good things you had to eat during the meeting of Presbytery.

Why d[illegible] I write such a warm [illegible] [illegible] mother? Well, I am unable [illegible]. I do not know really what [illegible] write now, but I suppose I wrote just as I felt— not because it was [illegible] her— but because I was just in that peculiar humor at the time. What were my thoughts on the 10th of April I have told you in a former letter and will pass the enquiry with a sigh as I think of the joys that are passed.

I did not receive yours of the 11th of May until about the 22nd of last month, and although I had received letters from Sam and Cousin M.S. giving me about all the news it contained still I was glad to get and to look again upon that old familiar [illegible] writing. I love even to get hold of a piece of paper that I know has been handled or pressed by loved ones hands. It is dear to me

Page(s)

Missing

Dawson Hospital
Greensboro, Ga
July 1st, 1864

Dear Mattie

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"Although not seen by human sight,
I feel thy spirit hovering near,
as soft as I feel the light
that trimbles through the atmosphere.

My spirit though with one a moment ago is now flying over hilltop and over mountain, through valley and through dale and is now gamboling with it kin-dred spirit mis flowers and the pale light of nights peaceful watchers.

I hear a voice on every breeze,
that makes to mine into low replies.
A voice, all low and sweet like thine.

[1 July 1864]

I do not feat that you will
ever forget me, for our love has
stood the fiery tests of time, and
fond memory will always unite our
spirits, though fear smokes us early
with her poisoned arrows, she missed
her aim and may only break the
hearts she can never part. How
can hearts be parted that are
one and joined by heavens hand?
Hope may wither and perishm but
it will only leave the affections

chastened and purified. True love
never dies.
If carelessly within thy heart
I ever placed a thorn
If ever I gave thee needless pain
Forget it now dear one.
Some youthful error may have grieved
When I might know it not
Think only of my virtues now
And be the rest forgot.
I am happy now and would
rec'd enternal amid these light
lovely scences of my own imagining,
but the sharp tick of time
piece and the heavy beating of
dome sick comrades remind me
that I am still in a land of ma-terial things. My dream is gone.
The spell is broken and I am
in a world of reality and am
reminded of a duty I was request-
ed to perform. It is eleven (11) o'clock.
I must see the hour of the night.
One-two(oh! how the cold chills rush
over my soul) three-four(my heart
is freezinf) five-six(where am I

what am I doing) seven-eight
(Is the world all dead and am I
---- its funeral---)nine-ten
(not not yet, someone calls) eleven(He
asks the hour) I am still alive

[1 July 1864]

and there are those around me who
still speake and breathe. I will now
retire to my single bed; commit my-
self to him who slumber not,
and asleeps and yield my body to
masters soft embrace. And Oh God
takes charge of my kindred spirit too.

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Although I have acknowledged
the receipt of all your letters except
your last of the 17th of May there are
many things in them deserving of
notice, which owing to circumstanc-
es, love been passed over heretofor
in silence. You will doubless wonder
why I was so silent about many
things of which you spoke in your letters.

I will not try to bring them up
in order, but will speake of them
as they come to my mind:
First yoy spoke of the joke of misses
Em and Mary Hall. I must confess
myself as much astonished at it as
you possibly could have been and
at first felt an extreme sense of
shame, but a little tinse and reason
restored me to self possession. I felt
that I and my beloved wife had
as much right to a free familiarity in
conversation and corrispondence as brother
and sister any of those other relation
of life.
I remember very well the History of
elder Sniffles and widow Bedots and
was much amissed at Biff's comparison.
It is indeed an applecable one.
One day while on the fall back
from Dalton and in company with
Pine-knot, I told him of Gen McL
beseiging Ft. Rhodes. His reply was
that he was very much surprised

[1 July 1864]

and that he had feared that
the Gen would only be too secessful
at Ft. Dowel for the good of those
that had been less fortunate.
You would be glad to know what
has become of my old friend Turner
and his family. Miss Hattie and two
sisters left Dalton a few days after
we started to Demopolis last Feb. and
came to Covington, Ga or its vicinity.
She to teach and they to go to
school. I saw Mrs. T. about 12 oclock
the night before we left. We left at
daybreak. I asked and obtained
a mission to carry her some broken
sacks of meal that had been set
aside fearing we would not have cars
enought to take it all. I got cousin
M.T. and J.N. McC and we selected
three of the best, making in all some
four or five bushels and carried them
to her. We found her and old Mrs.
Huttchinson(mother of Hutcheson of
---------, Memphis, Tenn) apparently in

in much trouble. They were alone
with three small children. Mr. T.
having gone south on business some
days before. We were soon admited
and our meal thankfully received.
She told me she had not a dust of
meal or flour in her house and that
until we came in she had not the
least idea when or where she would
get any more. I felt then as if I
had not lived altogether in vain.
I suppose Mr. T. to be still south
of our lines as I do not think
it would be possible for him to
return then or since.
Your critism on my photograph
was just and very correct. You point-
ed out the very objection of which

[1 July 1864]

I spoke, but that was no fault of
mine. The artist should have cut
them off at the waist.
How my mouth watered while I
read of the good things you had
to eat during the meeting of Presbyterian

Why did I write such a warm
letter to mother? Well, I am unable
to tell. I do not know really what
I did write now, but, I supposed I wrote
just as I felt, not because it was
to her, but because I was just in
that peculiar humor at the time.
What ere my thoughts on the 10th
of April. I have told you in a
former letter and will pass the
inquiry with a sign I think
of the joys that are passed.
I did not receive your of the
11th of May until about the 22nd
of last month and although I
had received letters from Sam
and cousin McI giving me about
all the news it contained still I
was glad to get and to look
again upon that old familiar
handwriting. I love even to gethold of a piece of paper that
I know has been or pressed by
loved ones hands. It is dear to me.

Page(s)

Missing

[illegible] gave me nothing [illegible] without [illegible] making my [illegible] very comfortable at- [illegible] [illegible] doubt [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] to go [illegible] again [illegible] all [illegible] have they received [illegible] three times as much as I could have carried they did all they could to make me comfortable and happy and I know you will think me foolish for leaving there when I might have stayed, but the truth of the whole matter is that I never expect to be contented when I am unwell until I get home. That is the only place I will be willing to remain at until I am entirely restored, [illegible] when we [illegible] have had to re- [illegible] in the [illegible] a part or two [illegible] days [illegible] and my face and [illegible] some times considerably swollen. [illegible] to [illegible] on the cars —

[illegible]
[illegible] a hundred and
twenty five since. [illegible] I made in all
over two hundred and fifty and have [illegible]
[illegible] and fifty miles of railroad
and [illegible] means [illegible]
[illegible] two thousand [illegible]
[illegible]
of the [illegible]
[illegible] They [illegible] without
the [illegible] The [illegible] the 6th
[illegible] the last [illegible]
[illegible]
afterwards [illegible]
[illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] got the most of the
[illegible] plunder, [illegible]
[illegible] about [illegible] thousand dollars worth. I got
me a good blanket, Indian rubber cloth,
canteen, an old revolver, and about three [illegible]
[illegible] Every body is [illegible] We are making
[illegible] and will leave at [illegible] o'clock
tomorrow [illegible] understanding [illegible] the Tenn
[illegible] bound for middle Tenn.

We are getting plenty [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] generally are [illegible] healthy. The [illegible] is very [illegible]. We have made [illegible] miles today [illegible] and [illegible] them out and put in a bushel of sweet potatoes

[illegible] 5th

[illegible] must [illegible] my [illegible] received some of [illegible] the [illegible] had to [illegible] will [illegible] to write any [illegible] whole [illegible] to [illegible] you [illegible] also [illegible] the father and mother and [illegible] come more [illegible] of [illegible] the most of it is [illegible] you will think [illegible] letters [illegible] to [illegible] not to [illegible]

Cousin [illegible] you [illegible] an idea of what [illegible] Miss W was cutting up about last [illegible] I would like to know more

I am glad Sam [illegible] has got to go home at Thanksgiving I hope he will have a nice time at home. If you send me anything by him do not send anything but a coat, pants and a pair of boots or shoes and some socks. I have everything else. I [illegible] his [illegible] and I would like to [illegible]

I suppose by your [illegible] some [illegible] that while we [illegible] go towards [illegible] I will [illegible] day [illegible] the other but if I get [illegible] slipping and you need not be surprised to see me home pretty soon then. I have not earned a grain since I came back and do not expect to [illegible] as I am [illegible] in time to all the days and their [illegible] now and often you must excuse [illegible] I would like to say much more but time will not permit.

I remain as ever

Your loving husband

[illegible]

CONTINUATION OF A LETTER WRITTEN OCTOBER 20, 1864
BY H.L. LYNN CONCERNING THE MOVEMENTS BACK TO TENNESSEE AFTER THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN

My aunt gave me clothing which with what I had makes my wardrobe very comfortable at present. Aunt Peggy gave me a pair of pants and a vest both of which Aunt Mag cut and made for me. Aunt Mag gave me a shirt & cousin Sallie Eestic gave me another. Aunt Jane Gillespie gave me a pair of socks, also Aunt Jane Lynn. These were all that I would take. They offered two or three times as much as I could have carried. They did all they could to make me comfortable and happy and I know you will think me foolish for leaving there when I might have staid, but the truth of the whole matter is this. I never expect to be contended when I am unwell until I get homeThat is the only place I will be willing to remain at until I am entirely restored. I am now cripled up with humatism so that I have had to be hauled in the ambulance a part of two or three days. Some nights I have considerable fever and my knees and ankles are sometimes considerable swollen. I left Chester on the 1st, came to Newman, Ga on the cars, walked seventy-five miles before I caught the command and have made a hundred and twenty five since. The army as made in all over two hundred and fifty and have tore up between fourty and fifty miles of railroad and captured four small garrisons making in all about two thousan d prisoners about half of the number at Dalton. Eight hundred of the garison, there were negros. The white Yankees were paroled. They surrendered without the fire of a gun. The 12th of May, the 6th & 9th Regts were the last infantry to leave that place and on the 13th of Oct. just five months afterwards were the first to enter.Our brigade took possesion of the fort and garrison after the surrender and consequently got the most of the captured plunder. We got at Confederate price,

[20 Oct 1864]

got about two thousand dollars worth. I got
me a good blanket, India rubber oil cloth,
canteen, anold repeater and about three lbs
of coffee. Everybody is jubilant. We are cooking
three days rations and will have leave at 3'oclock
tomorrow for Gunter landing on the Tenn.
river bound for middle Tennessee.

We are getting plenty to eat and the boys generally are standing the march very
well. We have made eighteen miles today
and since we stopped, cousin Mc and Billie
have been out and got a bushel of sweet
potatoes.

Oct. 21, 1864

D. leaves todayand I must finish my letter
this morning. I received yours of
the 8th of JUly on the night of of the 12th inst. I
was truly glad to hear from you. It was only
second to being at home. I will not be
able to write any but one letter but after
this whole letter is addressed to you. It is
also intended for father and mother and
will probably prove more interesting to them
than to give as the most of it is concern-
an relative. I know you will think
the time very long between letters, but
owing to the circumstances I could not do
better.
Cousin Mc gave me an idea of what
old Mrs. W. was cutting up about, but
still I would like to know more.

I am glad Sam has got to go home,
at least I hope he will have a nice time
at home. If you send me anything by
him do not send anything but a coat,
pants and a pr of boots or shoes and
some socks. I have everything else I
will need this winter and I could do
without these.

I suffer very severe pains, sometimes
but while we continue to go towards
home, I will go while ever I can drag

[20 Oct. 1864]

and foot past the other, but if I get any wise, I intend stopping and you need not be much surprised to see me home pretty soon now. I have not carried a gun since I came back, nor do I expect to while I am situated as I am. Give my love to all. The boys send their regards. Write soon and often. You must excuse brevity, I would like to say much more but time will not permit.

I remain as ever
your loving husband
H M Lynn

[illegible] 7th May [1865?]

[illegible] letter [illegible]

[illegible] feeling [illegible]

[illegible] Billie Wilson.

I thought [illegible] the other

[illegible] by mail [illegible]

[illegible] much

the [illegible] to

[illegible] heard [illegible] Belinda

[illegible] together all of us

feeling quite [illegible] in spirits [illegible] upon us

[illegible] all. I felt [illegible] to day. As pa is in a hurry

I must again stop. [illegible] is so [illegible] for me to think I can

get no more letters from you. [illegible] not anxious about me
though our country is being fast overrun by our foes yet I hope God
may preserve us all. And you too and permit us again to
meet in this world. If we never meet again here let us strive
to meet in Heaven. So goodbye Findley

Sunday evening 7th May[1865]

Dear Gridley: I gave or started you a letter today,
but fearing you will not get it and as pa Lynn has come by to
tell me that I can send you a word by Billie Wilson.
I thought I would pen you a line and also send the letter I wrote to to send by mail last
week. The reading of it may
be some satisfaction to you although there is pretty much
the same news in bottom of my last letters. W've been ti
church today, heard a good sermon, seen Lois & Linda.
We all three sat together and talked together, all of us
feeling quite low in spirits, tis a trying time upon us,
one & all. I felt well today. As pa is in a hurry,
I must again stop. Tis so hard for me to think I can
get no more letters from you. Be not anxious about me
though our country is being fast overrun by our foes yet. I hope God
may preserve us all. And you too and permit us again to
meet in this world. If we never meet again here, let us strive
to meet in heaven. So goodbye Gridley.

9 | Tenn.

J. H. Lynn

Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Jan 1 to May 1, 1862.

Enlisted:

When May 24, 186 .

Where Jackson Tenn

By whom A. W. Campbell Lt. Col.

Period 12 mo

Last paid:

By whom Paymr G. Peters

To what time Jan 1, 1862.

Present or absent absent

Remarks: On detached service at ... Dept.

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861, and re-organized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

On April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

Book mark:

O. J. C. Driscoll

Copyist.

---

9 | Tenn.

H. M. Lynn

Pvt., Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for May & June 1862

Dated Nov. 19, '62.

Enlisted:

When May 24, 1861.

Where Jackson, T.

By whom C A. W. Campbell

Period 12 mos.

Last paid:

By whom Capt. Geo. Dashiell

To what time 1st May 1862.

Present or absent Absent

Remarks: Detached service

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861, and re-organized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

On April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

Book mark:

W. H. Hibbard

Copyist.

L | 9 | Tenn.

G. W. Lyons

, Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Mch. & Apl., 1863

Enlisted:

When May 24, 186

Where Jackson, T.

By whom A. W. Campbell

Period 12 mos.

Last paid:

By whom

To what time ..., 186

Present or absent Present

Remarks: Paid on Descriptive Roll to March, 63.

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861; reorganized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

On April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

Book mark:

St. W. Hillary
Copyist.

G. M. Lyons

Pvt., Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Jan. & Feb., 1864

Not dated

Enlisted:

When May 24, 1861

Where Jackson Tenn

By whom A. W. Campbell

Period 12 mo

Last paid:

By whom Capt. Pilcher

To what time ..., 186

Present or absent Present

Remarks: absent sick since muster

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861; reorganized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

On April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

Book mark:

B. J. Stewart
Copyist.

Lynn H. M.

Co. 6, 9 Tennessee Inf.

Became part of 1 Consolidated Reg't Tenn. Inf. about Apr. 9, '65

(Confederate.)

Private Private

CARD NUMBERS.

1	49865538	20	
2	5632	21	
3	5711	22	
4	5892	23	
5	5737	24	
6	6001	25	
7	44337706	26	
8	46872730	27	
9	5099	28	
10		29	
11		30	
12		31	
13		32	
14		33	
15		34	
16		35	
17		36	
18		37	
19		38	

Number of medical cards herein ....

Number of personal papers herein ....

Book Mark: ....

See also ....

W. M. Lynn

Pvt. Co. C 9 Regt. Tenn. Inf.

Appears on a

Roll of Prisoners of War

who reported at Memphis and received paroles, for 5 days ending May 20, 1865.

Roll dated *Not dated*

Paroled *Not stated*

Remarks:

C. G. Smith

Copyist.

Appears on a register of

Prisoners of War

at Memphis, Tenn. — Deserters from rebel army

The name appears under the following heading:

"Administered in lieu of the Amnesty."

Date June 2, 186

Place of residence:

County Mt. Zion

State Tenn.

Description:

Complexion fair; hair dark; eyes blue

Height: ft. 5 in. 11; age 34

Remarks: —

Memphis, Tenn., Register No. 3; page

[illegible]

9 Tenn.

W. M. Lynn

Pvt. 9 Regt. Tenn. Inf.

Name appears on an

Oath of Allegiance

to the United States, sworn to at Memphis, Tenn., from June 1 to 15, 1865.

Date, June 2, 1865

Place of residence Mount Zion, Tenn

Complexion Florid ; hair Dark

Eyes Blue ; height 5 ft. 11 in.

Age 28

Remarks:

Endorsement shows: "Report of men that have taken the oath issued in lieu of the Amnesty."

Number of roll:

; sheet 3

B. J. C. Dresser

Copyist.

H. M. Lynn
Pr., Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Jul & Aug, 1862.

dated Jan. 19, 1863

Enlisted:

When May 24, 1861.

Where Jackson Tenn

By whom A. W. Campbell

Period 12 mos

Last paid:

By whom Capt. Geo. Harkins

To what time July 1, 1862.

Present or absent Not stated

Remarks: Descriptive Roll

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861, and re-organized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

About April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

Book mark:

A. J. L. Dwinell
Copyist.

H. M. Lynn
Pr., Co. C, 9 Reg't Tennessee Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

of the organization named above,

for Jan & Feb, 1862.

Enlisted:

When May 24, 1861.

Where Jackson Tenn

By whom A. W. Campbell

Period 12 m.

Last paid:

By whom

To what time, 186

Present or absent Not stated

Remarks: Descriptive Roll

The 9th Regiment Tennessee Infantry was organized in May, 1861, and re-organized in May, 1862. About December, 1862, it appears to have been consolidated with the 6th Regiment Tennessee Infantry, but each company of the two organizations was mustered separately and under its original designation during the period covered by this consolidation.

About April 9, 1865, the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th and 34th Regiments Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Battalion Tennessee Sharpshooters were consolidated and formed the 1st Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry, which was paroled at Greensboro, N. C., May 1, 1865.

A. J. L. Dwinell

[illegible]ed .... this day of M. A. Pegues, Maj. [illegible]

[illegible]armaster .... the following .... viz:

One Pair Shoes 5.00

Cash Received

Sept 13 .... 186 ....

[illegible]

[illegible]

#5029-z
H. M. LYNN
PAPERS

1877-1882
and undated

Folder 5 of 5

Atoka [illegible] 5 18[illegible]

Dear Sister

[illegible] last was gladly received [illegible] & will try to answer it though I have but little to write. We are only tolerable well Bobbie had some chills last week but is up now. I dont feel very well but keep up. I had a [illegible] with my teeth about two weeks ago & [illegible] one taken out & it caused me a good fever that day & the [illegible] was very painful & thought my face would rise for several days but it all passed off & I have not [illegible] with too [illegible] much since. though I have one left that [illegible] [illegible] but I dread so much having them pulled that I expect I will suffer a good long time before [illegible]

[illegible] are very dull every body at home
hard at work I guess. [illegible] making up
lost [illegible]. Jim & Pa are digging away.
Jim has about two acres of new ground to
plant in corn & he is fixing that today
& wants to [illegible] monday if [illegible] happens
& that will finish planting their crop.
Pa is [illegible] out [illegible] cotton; He says eight
acres is a [illegible] job for ~~a~~ an old man like him
& he thinks he must have some help
next week. He hoes away for a while &
then comes to the house & take a cool
drink & sets & fans & blows awhile & then
goes back & hoes away & I reckon will
get it done after awhile but I get right
tickled at him mighty often ~~[illegible]~~ I hope
he will get some help & get it over before
it [illegible]. We are having a very cool
spell [illegible] & the cut-worms are thinning things
[illegible]

Nothing new in the neighborhood that I know
of only I heard yesterday that Aunt Mary
& uncle James had gone to Ill. They told
us some time ago they wanted to go but I
thought it was only talk but Martha was
coming to John's & she wrote for them to
meet her there & that was the only chance
of there seeing her soon & they wanted [to] know
it will be a great meeting dont [you] .
I receid a letter from Lince about the
time I got yours. They were better when
she wrote Little Jimmie & his Mama were setting looking for his people to come
out on a bench in the gallery & he fell on
a rock & got badly hurt & for three days
& night they thought he would have spasms
he could not sleep for every time he would go
to sleep would be just like he was going to
have a spasm but he was better & could
walk about a little but limped a good deal

Poor little fellow I am afraid there will something befall him for they dote on him so much. He will now get in his Pa' lap & ask him to read the bible & while his Pa is reading he will set just as still untill he is through & then say Papa read Jesus & his goodness works. Lina says he can out sing any little one she ever knew. Knows away to sabbath school & Happy land & tells them what songs to sing to him when he is sick & is so patient when there is any thing the matter with him. Humphrey is getting more [illegible] than he ever was had; He is gone from home so much. Lina wrote for [illegible] [illegible] up there & helpe her out & stay with her at night for Humphrey has all negroes this year & Lina has a keeper to see after when he is away. She has her cook & miss Mary Bruce very often but with their helpe she still has a plenty to keep her buisy

[5]

Tom [illegible] come to his farm in [illegible] some time ago. [illegible] winter wheat is looking well & every one is going in for a big tobacco crop & not much sorghum planting. Pa & Jim won't plant any & I am sorry for my chance of getting lasses will be slim if they have to be bought — but none like them out [illegible] little boys & me. My garden is a poor one [illegible] & am afraid it will continue so. Chickens are all most played out; have about sixty hatched off, but I don't suppose I have hardly half that number now. We have two young calves but not using the milk yet. The caterpillars have been worse this year [illegible] ever eat things that they were never known to touch before. I had to keep them picked off my beans [illegible] like they would eat them up any how but they are disappearing now rapidly.

[6]

Jim gives the [illegible] water every [illegible] of the [illegible] give it three mornings & rest three [illegible] before eating [illegible] [illegible]. Annie goes to Sunday school at Salem she is through her scripture questions & now on the [illegible]. She has five pages to get for every Sunday & she has to study hard to learn it well. She is now down studying hard as she can so she can get [illegible] tomorrow; she dearly loves to go. Patie is a sleep & so is Willie & Bobbie has gone to the [illegible] with his Pa so it is still times here. I have got to [illegible] so I must stop. I will send you a piece of my dress. I have it made [illegible]. I have all fixed so they can go to church now. but few new [illegible] & [illegible] the old chest & you may know they dont look fine but that dont matter so they look clean & well. Pa & Jim & children send love to you all. Kiss the little ones for [illegible]. [illegible] family are tolerable well. they are busy with their crops. So no more as ever your devoted sister. [illegible]

Write soon

[illegible] write [illegible] soon

Pa met a man in town [illegible] uncle Shirl was dead. That was some time ago & I thought I [illegible]

I met a man in town Wilmington ... uncle Shi[illegible] was dead. that was some time ago & I thought [illegible]

Jim gives the salt water every light of the moon give it three mornings & & rest three; take [illegible] before eating their [illegible] [illegible]. Annie goes to Sunday school at Salem she is through her scripture questions & now on the Catechism. She has five pages to get for every Sunday & she has to study hard to learn it well. She is now down studying hard as she can so she can get [illegible] tomorrow; she dearly loves to go. Patia is asleep & so is Willie & Bobbie has gone to the field with his Pa so it is still times here. I have got to [illegible] so I must stop. I will send you a piece of my dress. I have it made [illegible]. I have all fixed so they can go to church now. but [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to the glue chest & you may know they don't look fine but [illegible] don't matter so they look clean & well. Pa & Jim & children send love to you all. Kiss the little ones for Auntie. [illegible] family are tolerable well. they are busy with their crops. So no more as ever your devoted sister [illegible]

write [illegible] soon

1877

Mokid Tenn July 6th

Dear Children 07/06/77

it seams a long time since I have wrote to you and have not heard from you long. we are well what is at home Mattie is gon to spend the summer with Jim and Maggie it will be three weeks monday since She left Maggie had a daughter 5 days after Mattie got their is getting along very well they call the babe Matilda Elizabeth will call it Betty every day it is very small but seams to be doing very well we feel very lonely out we still keep Rass if we keep well we can do very well has a negro boy [illegible] his

very much love to you all
your mother

corn all laid by is plowing
his cotton it has been avery
hard year to work a crop
a great many hard rains
and is very warm crops
look very well except
the bottoms some of them
was swept away wheat is
generly good people has not
got it out yet some of the
thrashers is starting this
week we have no apples this
year the worms destroid
them all we have a few
peaches our hogs has died
this year again will not
have enough to do us it
is a general thing some have
lost all but one or two. I
have a nice lot of chickens
have plenty of milk and
butter

now my dear little
grandchildren gran ma
thinks so often about you
and noes you will be
working so hard these
long hot days but little
children must work to
help Papa and Mama.
Claudy has to hoe and
draw water like you did
when I was hear granma
would like to come and
see you all again what
can little Hannie do
yes she can help mama
to wash the dishes
Ro and Clee granpa has
old charlie and button
yet they just look like
they did when you was
hear I wish you could all
come again

well I must close with l
I think a great deal of the dress you
am wereing it this summer

corn all laid by is plowing
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well I must close with very much love to you all
your mother
E Lyne

I think a great deal of the dress you gave me
am wearing it this summer

I feel like our children
was all gon no on near us
but Wils Ellon alway trys
to let some of the children
stay with us Nat and
Ross is boath hear today
I suppose you would like
to hear what had become
of John he is still in
Nebraska a sergent in the
hospitle he sent Mattie
a letter not long since poor
fellow he repents he wishes
Matties happiness ten fold
and said it would be hers
for she had done nothing to
mar it he said he had no
home nor never wanted one
Mattie has got over her
trouble pretty well
you must try to write soon
and tell us every thin how
you are getting along

Page(s)

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I see the fresh red mounds. Those are Points & Winn's yonder by the fence next the church and there further back is Lizy's. See their Mothers have planted roses and ever greens at their heads. Noble boys, martyrs to your Country's cause, sleep on, may the silence of your resting place never be broken by the tread of yours and your country's foes. And ye visitors that approach this spot, tread lightly and reverently for all the sacred associations that cluster around the patriots grave is here —. But I pass on — my hearts heavy. I note some change just here on the left. Dr Miller has fenced in a little plat of ground, and that little road down by his barn & by Mrs Popes house has been made a wide street. Yonder is the Dr's little beauties in the porch. This old boarding house on the left does look so lonely. Tis an ugly old thing but I also

it is a desecration to have it full of cotton bales that way. And there are the boarding rooms at old Andy's. It does look so so strange to see that old Sugar Mill standing in the center of the upper yard, and the weeds and black locus shrubs have grown up to the very room doors and have almost hid the windows But there is the hotel looking gay as ever, not a flower in that yard has drooped on account of the war and yonder is Lizz[illegible] McMorries) standing in that litt[illegible] randa above looking so natural. Here is a crowd around the P.O. to get the mail. Probably it is not so noisy as when I was here last but I believe it is as large and eager. Now we turn down to the Tel. office. Here is Bonner drug store looking for all the world like, so

colobouse. The old Tel. office is
just the same. There is Bonners
house. J. P. Kennedy lives there now.
These trees are trimed up which
gives every thing a nopen airy ap-
pearance. Those old kitchens
yonder have been moved back
and yonder in the rear is a large
new barn, new negro houses and
all whitewashed too. There is a big
white pigeon box perched up on a
high pole. These thing altogether
give a decidedly cosy appearance
and constitute quite an improve-
ment in the prospect here. Over
here on the left the improving hands
of taste have made a great change.
The front of our boarding rooms
there is embellished with a heavy
poarch. The rear or [illegible] has now
on each side shade rooms and
an open piazza, yonder is a
Carriage house and neat negroes

houses all white, that pretty
front yard has been sown with
grass and they are white washing
the fence. In short that old
house of Mrs Popes with its porch
and new window blinds and
all its improvements is a very
neat one. Fed Vance lives there.
The new street that begins above
Dr Millers crosses between Kennedys
and the Bel. office and continues
running parallel with Main
Street until it strikes the road
at Pres. Patton house. Well Jim
are you tired riding with me
Golover — just top those [illegible]
little Golover and we will soon
be to Mr Lindsays. In the mean
time we will just look out this
right window here & get a view
of the old College and Campus
Forgive my silent musings for I
must be silent. Tis so distant

Page(s)

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~~I~~ warfare aptly illustrates the christian life. It applies equally as well to associations ~~organizations~~ as to individuals. In times of war that party is wise that studies carefully and comprehends fully all its own elements of weakness as well as the strength and capabilities of its enemies. "To be forwarned is to be forarmed." Conciousness of weakness at any point leads to fortification and vigilance. A knowledge of our enemies ~~strength~~ capacities enables us to anticipate when, where and how attack will be made. No knowledge is more valuable to the soldier than his own experience. It enables him not only to judge correctly but to act cooly and efficently in times of danger. This was strikingly illustrated by a little incident of the late war. One lovely evening in the spring of 1864, two private soldiers in the Southern Army took an evening walk up and down the line of works, strong fortification extended along the side and around the bases of Kenesaw Mountain; at all weak points along the line the soldiers, were massed; at intervals on commanding eminences cannon commanded the valley and the hills and peaks beyond; at points ~~where~~ where the ascent was steep and the position strong the soldiers were deployed as on a skermish line, The two soldiers after viewing more than three miles of the Confederate works returned to their own position. It was at an abrupt angle: four heavy field pieces stood ~~two~~ and two to the right and left of the vertex; on the right and the

left of these guns were deployed the brigade of soldiers that had captured them from the enemy at Murfreesboro. They took their place about 150 yards to the right of these guns. "What d'ye think boys?" was the inquiry of a comrade. They answered, "We occupy the strongest position on this line, but if Gen Sherman does not flank us his main assault will be upon this angle."

Before 10 A.M. the following day the signal for the charge was given and one of the most desperate gallant assaults of the war was made. The coolness and steadiness of these deployed soldiers are known by the result. Dead angle will be known long after its last participant has been laid in grave.

Our dangers in the christian warfare are great in proportion to the strength and activity of our enemies and our own weakness and and indifference. The great adversary of souls is ever active and ready to seduce, decoy, deceive, and terrify. He varies his devices to suit the case; to one he is wyly serpent; to another the roaring lion. He is always opposed to men and women seeking an interest in Jesus Christ. He does all he can in every way to deaden the moral sensibilities; to allay the fear of punishment, and to stimulate the degenerate side of our nature. He opposes us individually and especially is he opposed to all organizations in which we may aid each other in holy living

VIEW BY H.M. LYNN OF THE BATTLE OF KENNESAW MOUNTAIN WRITTEN AFTER THE WAR, POSSIBLY FOR A SPEECH.

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Hugh McDonelson Lyons - well known Postmaster of [illegible], [illegible] was born in Chester Co. S. Car. April 10, 1837, son of John & Elizabeth (McDonelson) Lyons, natives of the Pal[illegible] State where they were reared, educated & married - In Dec. 1837 they moved to Tenn and settled in Tipton Co Tennessee, where the father followed agricultural pursuits until his death [illegible] [illegible], his wife died in April [illegible].

Prof. Lyons early youth was spent in Tipton Co. He acquired an education far beyond the average farmer's boy owing to the fact that he was studious [illegible] & recd superior advantages - He entered Erskine College S.C., graduated from this institution when 22 yrs of age, after which he engaged in teaching in Tipton County, holding the position of prin. of an academy. After coming to Ark in 1872 he engaged in teaching school at

Lonoke, then followed same occupation in Des Arc for nine years & at Hazen 3 yrs — He was an educator of more than local celebrity and up to 1889 his entire time was given to his chosen life work — After 1889 he became Post master of Des Arc; ~~& held this office until his death in 1904.~~

He was married to Miss Martha Simpson in Atoka Tenn April 10, 1862 — Their children are Dr. G. R. Lynn, a prominent physician of Hazen Ark, Chas. W. Lynn, a successful business man of Texarkana, Ark. and Mrs. Nannie Strong wife of Hugh C. Strong, lawyer, of Brinkley, Ark.

At the opening of the Civil War he espoused the cause of Confederacy and in May 1861 joined the [illegible] Tenn. Infantry, as a private, and served until the close of the War, being paroled at Mps, Tenn in July 1865. He was in the fights of Chickamauga and Franklin, & served on detached duty in the ordnance dept — He was a member of K. of P. & Masonic fraternity, attained Royal Arch degree — had been Worshipful Master & High Priest — He was member of Chapter E.[illegible] Pres. Ch.

[1882]

... THE ...

LITTLE CHILD'S Catechism.

BY

REV. L. H. WILSON.

RICHMOND, VA.
PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE OF PUBLICATION,
1001 Main Street.

THE

LITTLE CHILD'S CATECHISM.

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L. H. W.

RICHMOND, VA.:
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PREFACE.

THIS Catechism was prepared originally by the Author for his own children; and, with the hope that it may prove of equal benefit to others, it is now committed to the public. The object in view was to provide instruction in catechetical form, within the easy comprehension of even very young children, and it is believed that there are few of the answers herein given which may not be understood and memorized readily by the youngest learners. The lessons are regulated, not according to the amount necessary to be learned at one time, but according to subjects. The parent or teacher can judge best as to how much should be attempted at one time.

That it may prove a blessing to the children of the Church, and be instrumental in instructing them in the ways of righteousness, is the prayer of

THE AUTHOR.

LITTLE CHILD'S CATECHISM.

LESSON I.

GOD.

Q. *Who made you and takes care of you?*
A. God.
Q. *What else did God make?*
A. All things.
Q. *What else does God take care of besides you?*
A. He takes care of all things.
Q. *What is God?*
A. God is a Spirit.
Q. *Where is God?*
A. He is everywhere.
Q. *Can you see God?*
A. No, I cannot see God.
Q. *Why cannot you see God?*
A. Because He is a Spirit.

Q. *Can God see you?*
A. Yes, God sees me.
Q. *Give a verse from the Bible which tells you this?*
A. "Thou God seest me."
Q. *Why can God see you?*
A. Because He sees and knows all things.
Q. *When does God see you?*
A. At all times.
Q. *Are there more Gods than one?*
A. No, there is but one God.
Q. *In how many Persons does this one God exist?*
A. In three Persons.
Q. *What are they?*
A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

LESSON II.

The Soul.

Q. *Have you a soul as well as a body?*
A. Yes, I have a soul that can never die.

Q. *Do all little children have souls as well as bodies?*
A. Yes, all little children have souls.
Q. *How do you know that you have a soul?*
A. Because I can think about God and the world to come.
Q. *Do beasts and birds and other such creatures have souls?*
A. They do not.
Q. *Can your soul ever die as your body dies?*
A. No, my soul can never die.
Q. *How do you know that your soul can never die?*
A. Because the Bible teaches me so.
Q. *Who first created your soul?*
A. God, who made all things.
Q. *Where do you learn this?*
A. In the Bible.
Q. *Why did God create your soul?*
A. To love and enjoy Him.
Q. *What does God require of you?*
A. To love Him with all my heart.

LESSON III.

Jesus Christ.

Q. *Who is Jesus Christ?*
A. The Son of God.
Q. *What is Jesus Christ?*
A. Our Lord and Saviour.
Q. *Where did Jesus come from when He came to earth?*
A. From Heaven.
Q. *Why did Jesus come from Heaven?*
A. To save sinners.
Q. *Why did He want to save sinners?*
A. Because He loved and pitied them.
Q. *Was Jesus a sinner?*
A. No, He was without sin.
Q. *How does He save sinners?*
A. By dying for them.
Q. *Where was Jesus born?*
A. In Bethlehem of Judea.
Q. *In the days of what King?*
A. In the days of Herod the King.
Q. *What kind of a death did He die?*
A. A very shameful and painful one.

Q. *On what did Jesus die?*
A. On the cross.
Q. *Where was the cross?*
A. On Calvary.
Q. *Where was Calvary?*
A. Near Jerusalem.
Q. *Who commanded Him to be put to death?*
A. Pontius Pilate.
Q. *Who was Pontius Pilate?*
A. The Roman Governor.

LESSON IV.

The Holy Spirit.

Q. *Who is the Holy Spirit?*
A. He is God.
Q. *Where is the Holy Spirit?*
A. He is everywhere.
Q. *Does the Holy Spirit see and know all things?*
A. Yes.
Q. *Why does He see and know all things?*
A. Because He is God.

Q. *What does the Holy Spirit do for us?*

A. He changes our hearts.

Q. *What else does He do for us?*

A. He teaches us the truth.

Q. *What truth does He teach us?*

A. The truth we need to know in order to be saved.

Q. *What is our duty to the Holy Spirit?*

A. To pray to Him.

Q. *What else?*

A. To obey His voice.

Q. *How must we honor Him?*

A. As God.

Q. *What must we not do to Him?*

A. We must not grieve Him.

Q. *What does the Bible say about this?*

A. "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God."

Q. *What promise does God make about giving His Spirit?*

A. "I will put my Spirit within you."

LESSON V.

THE NEW BIRTH.

Q. *What do all mankind need before they can go to Heaven?*

A. A change of heart.

Q. *Do little children need this change of heart as well as others?*

A. Yes, little children as well as others.

Q. *Why do little children as well as all mankind need this change of heart?*

A. Because all have a sinful nature.

Q. *What does God call this change of heart?*

A. "A new heart."

Q. *What promise does God make about this new heart?*

A. "A new heart will I give you."

Q. *What else does God call this new heart?*

A. Being born again.

Q. *What does Jesus say about it?*

A. "Ye must be born again."

Q. *Must little children be born again as well as others?*

A. Yes.
Q. *Who alone can change the heart?*
A. The Holy Spirit.
Q. *What prayer can little children pray about the new heart?*
A. "Create in me a clean heart, O God."

LESSON VI.

The Bible.

Q. *What Book has God given us to teach us what we must do?*
A. The Bible.
Q. *Who wrote the Bible?*
A. Holy men of God.
Q. *When did these holy men live?*
A. A great while ago.
Q. *Who taught them what to write?*
A. The Holy Spirit.
Q. *What is the Bible, then?*
A. The Word of God.
Q. *What does the Bible teach us?*
A. Our duty to God.
Q. *What else does it teach us?*
A. Our duty to our fellow-men.

Q. *What does it teach us about God?*
A. It teaches us what God is.
Q. *What else does it teach us about God?*
A. How He loves us and what He has done for us.
Q. *What does the Bible teach us of our duty to God?*
A. To love and obey Him.
Q. *What does it teach us of our duty to our fellow-men?*
A. To love all mankind.
Q. *What else?*
A. To be kind to one another.
Q. *What does the Bible show us?*
A. The way to Heaven.

LESSON VII.

The Moral Law.

Q. *How many commandments has God given us?*
A. Ten.
Q. *Where were the Ten Commandments given?*
A. At Mount Sinai.

Q. *How were they given?*
A. God spake them with His voice.
Q. *Why did God give these commandments?*
A. To teach us what is right or wrong.
Q. *Upon what were the Ten Commandments written?*
A. Upon two tables of stone.
Q. *How many commandments upon the first table?*
A. Four.
Q. *How many upon the second table?*
A. Six.
Q. *What does the first table contain?*
A. Our duty to God.
Q. *What does the second table contain?*
A. Our duty to man.
Q. *What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?*
A. To love God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves.
Q. *Can any one perfectly keep these commandments of God?*
A. No, not now.

Q. *Why can no one perfectly keep them now?*
A. Because all men are sinners.
Q. *Who only can help a little child to obey and keep these commandments of God?*
A. The Holy Spirit.
Q. *Will He help little children to keep them?*
A. Yes, if they ask Him.
Q. *Where does God say is our help?*
A. "In Me is thine help."
Q. *What little prayer can children pray who want to do God's will?*
A. "Teach me to do Thy will."

LESSON VIII.

Sin.

Q. *What is sin?*
A. Doing anything wrong.
Q. *Is anything else sin?*
A. Yes, not doing what we ought to do.
Q. *What does God call sin?*
A. An abominable thing.

Q. *What are God's feelings towards it?*

A. He hates it.

Q. *Why does God hate sin?*

A. Because it is so evil.

Q. *What else does He say about sin?*

A. That He cannot look upon it.

Q. *What does this mean?*

A. That He cannot endure it.

Q. *Will God punish sin?*

A. He will.

Q. *Why must He punish it?*

A. Because it deserves to be punished.

Q. *What only can take away sin?*

A. The blood of Jesus Christ.

Q. *What does the Bible say about the blood of Jesus Christ?*

A. That it cleanses from all sin.

LESSON IX.

Repentance and Faith.

Q. *What does God command all men to do in regard to sin?*

A. To repent of it.

Q. *What is it to repent of sin?*

A. To be sorry for it.

Q. *What else?*

A. To forsake it.

Q. *Do those truly repent of sin who continue to love and practice it?*

A. No.

Q. *Can we be sorry for and forsake sin without help?*

A. We cannot.

Q. *Who must help us?*

A. God our Saviour.

Q. *What does the Bible say that Jesus is exalted to give?*

A. To give repentance.

Q. *What else does Jesus give to those who repent?*

A. Forgiveness of sin.

Q. *When we commit sin what must we ask God to do?*

A. To forgive us.

Q. *For whose sake?*

A. For Christ's sake.

Q. *What is it to have faith in Christ?*

A. To trust in Him.

Q. *Does He invite us to come to Him?*
A. Yes.
Q. *Does He promise to receive us?*
A. He does.
Q. *Who may come to Jesus?*
A. Whosoever will may come.

LESSON X.

Prayer.

Q. *To whom ought we to pray?*
A. To God only.
Q. *In whose name ought we to pray?*
A. In the name of Christ.
Q. *For what ought we to pray?*
A. For forgiveness of sin, cleansing of our hearts, and whatever else we may need.
Q. *How often ought we to pray?*
A. At least every morning and evening.
Q. *What beautiful prayer has Christ left us to teach us how to pray?*
A. The Lord's Prayer.

Q. *How does the Lord's Prayer begin?*
A. "Our Father which art in heaven."
Q. *What is the first petition?*
A. "Hallowed be Thy name."
Q. *What is the second petition?*
A. "Thy kingdom come."
Q. *What is the third petition?*
A. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
Q. *What is the fourth petition?*
A. "Give us this day our daily bread."
Q. *What is the fifth petition?*
A. "And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."
Q. *What is the sixth petition?*
A. "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
Q. *What is the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer?*
A. "For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."
Q. *What can teach us how to pray?*
A. God's Word and His Holy Spirit.

LESSON XI.

THE SABBATH.

Q. *What day has God set apart more particularly for His own worship?*
A. The Sabbath day.
Q. *What is the Sabbath day called?*
A. The Lord's day.
Q. *Who arose from the dead on that day?*
A. Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Q. *Is this why the Sabbath is called the Lord's day?*
A. Yes.
Q. *What command has God given about the Sabbath?*
A. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
Q. *How can we keep the Sabbath holy?*
A. By spending it in the worship and service of God.
Q. *What does God promise to those who remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy?*
A. He promises to bless them.

Q. *What does He threaten against those who profane His Sabbaths?*
A. His grievous displeasure.
Q. *What short text of Scripture then should we remember?*
A. "My Sabbaths ye shall keep."

LESSON XII.

THE SACRAMENTS.

Q. *What means of grace has God given us?*
A. His Word, sacraments and prayer.
Q. *How many sacraments are there?*
A. Only two.
Q. *What are they?*
A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
Q. *Who appointed these sacraments?*
A. Jesus Christ.
Q. *For what purpose did He appoint them?*
A. For our instruction, comfort and salvation.
Q. *What element is used in baptism?*
A. Water.

Q. *What does baptism teach us?*

A. That our natures are sinful and need to be cleansed.

Q. *Who only can cleanse our sinful natures?*

A. The Holy Spirit alone.

Q. *Of what does baptism then remind us?*

A. The work of the Holy Spirit.

Q. *In whose name is baptism to be administered?*

A. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Q. *Who are to be baptized?*

A. Believers and their children.

Q. *What should baptized children remember?*

A. That they belong to God.

Q. *How should they endeavor to live?*

A. Holy and blameless lives.

Q. *Can they do this of themselves?*

A. No, they must seek God's grace to help them.

Q. *Of what does the Lord's Supper remind us?*

A. Of our absent Saviour.

Q. *What elements are used in this sacrament?*

A. Bread and wine.

Q. *What does the bread represent?*

A. Our Lord's body.

Q. *What does the wine represent?*

A. His shed blood.

Q. *What does He say about this sacrament?*

A. "This do in remembrance of me."

Q. *What does the Lord's Supper teach us?*

A. That Christ died for our sins.

Q. *What else does it teach us?*

A. That we ought to love and serve Him.

Q. *How long are we to observe this sacrament?*

A. Until He comes again.

LESSON XIII.

The Offices of Christ.

Q. *Who is the only King and Head of the Church?*

A. Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Q. *What is Jesus Christ to us?*

A. Our Redeemer.

Q. *How many offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?*

A. Three.

Q. *What are they?*

A. He is our Prophet, Priest and King.

Q. *Why do we need a Prophet?*

A. Because we are ignorant.

Q. *What does Christ do for us as our Prophet?*

A. He teaches us the will of God.

Q. *By what means?*

A. By His Word and Spirit.

Q. *Why do we need a Priest?*

A. Because we are sinful and guilty.

Q. *What does Christ do for us as our Priest?*

A. He died for our sins.

Q. *What else?*

A. He reconciles us to God.

Q. *And what else?*

A. He intercedes for us.

Q. *Why do we need a King?*

A. Because we are weak and our foes are strong.

Q. *What does Christ do for us as our King?*

A. He rules us and defends us.

Q. *What will He do to His and our enemies?*

A. Restrain and conquer them.

LESSON XIV.

Obedience to Parents and Other Duties.

Q. *How should children act towards their parents?*

A. Obey them.

Q. *What does the Bible say about this?*

A. "Children, obey your parents."

Q. *Why should children do this?*

A. Because it is right.

Q. *What does God command about this?*

A. "Honor thy father and thy mother."

Q. *How can children honor their parents?*

A. By loving and obeying them.

Q. *What promise does God make to those who obey this command?*

A. A promise of long life.

Q. *What does God say about profane swearing?*

A. We must not take His name in vain.

Q. *What does He say about murder?*

A. "Thou shalt not kill."

Q. *What does He say about stealing?*

A. "Thou shalt not steal."

Q. *What does He say about lying?*

A. That we must not tell a lie.

Q. *What does He say about coveting?*

A. "Thou shalt not covet."

Q. *What does He command about love to our neighbor?*

A. To love our neighbor as ourselves.

LESSON XV.

Heaven and Hell.

Q. *What is Heaven?*

A. A beautiful and glorious place.

Q. *Where is Heaven?*

A. Beyond the sky.

Q. *Who live in Heaven?*

A. God and the holy angels.

Q. *Are there any others in Heaven besides these?*

A. Yes, many who have gone from this earth.

Q. *Who are these?*

A. All who have died in the Lord.

Q. *What does the Bible call them?*

A. "The spirits of just men made perfect."

Q. *Who else are there?*

A. Many little children are there.

Q. *How came they there?*

A. Through the blood of Christ.

Q. *What is the state of those in Heaven?*

A. They are holy and happy forever.

Q. *What is hell?*

A. A place of great misery and woe.

Q. *What is it for?*

A. A place of punishment.

Q. *Who only are sent there?*

A. Those who love and continue in sin.

Q. *How may we escape being sent there?*
A. Only through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Q. *How is this to be done?*
A. By repentance and forsaking of sin, and trusting in Him as our Saviour.

LESSON XVI.

Bible History.

Q. *Who were our first parents?*
A. Adam and Eve.
Q. *Of what was Adam made?*
A. Of the dust of the ground.
Q. *Of what was Eve made?*
A. Of one of Adam's ribs.
Q. *Where were our first parents placed after their creation?*
A. In the garden of Eden.
Q. *What was their condition at that time?*
A. They were holy and happy.
Q. *Did God give them permission to eat of the trees of the garden?*
A. Yes, of all except one.

Q. *What was that tree called?*
A. "The tree of knowledge of good and evil."
Q. *What did God command in regard to that tree?*
A. That they must not eat of it.
Q. *What was to happen to them if they ate of it?*
A. They would surely die.
Q. *Did they obey God?*
A. No, they disobeyed Him.
Q. *How did they disobey Him?*
A. By eating the forbidden fruit.
Q. *What did this disobedience bring into the world?*
A. It brought sin and death.

LESSON XVII.

Bible History.—*Continued.*

Q. *Who tempted Adam and Eve to sin?*
A. The devil.
Q. *Who is the devil?*
A. A fallen angel.
Q. *What does that mean?*

A. An angel who has sinned.
Q. *What is the devil called in Scripture?*
A. The "Old Serpent."
Q. *What did our first parents lose when they sinned against God?*
A. The favor of God.
Q. *Under what were they brought?*
A. Under His wrath and curse.
Q. *How did they feel?*
A. They felt afraid of God.
Q. *What did they try to do?*
A. To hide from him.
Q. *Could they do this?*
A. No; no one can hide from God.
Q. *What is this disobedience of our first parents called?*
A. It is called "the fall."
Q. *Into what estate did the fall bring mankind?*
A. Into an estate of sin and misery.
Q. *Did God leave all mankind to perish in a state of sin and misery?*
A. No, He provided them a Saviour.
Q. *Who is this Saviour?*
A. The Lord Jesus Christ.

LESSON XVIII.

Bible History.—*Continued.*

Q. *What became of Adam and Eve after they had sinned?*
A. They were driven out of the garden of Eden.
Q. *How were they kept from returning?*
A. By a flaming sword guarding the way.
Q. *By what else?*
A. By cherubim.
Q. *What are cherubim?*
A. Bright and holy angels.
Q. *What was cursed because of Adam's sin?*
A. The ground was cursed.
Q. *What was it to bring forth?*
A. Thorns and thistles.
Q. *What was to be their lot?*
A. Sorrow, suffering, and toil.
Q. *How long was this to continue?*
A. All the days of their life.
Q. *To what were they to return at their death?*

A. To the ground from whence they were taken.

Q. *What did God say about this?*

A. "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

Q. *Who did God promise would conquer the Old Serpent and bring salvation to our race?*

A. The Seed of the woman.

Q. *Who is He?*

A. Jesus Christ.

LESSON XIX.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS ON OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY.

Q. *Who was the first man?*

A. Adam.

Q. *The first woman?*

A. Eve.

Q. *The holiest man?*

A. Enoch.

Q. *The meekest man?*

A. Moses.

Q. *The oldest man?*

A. Methuselah.

Q. *The strongest man?*

A. Samson.

Q. *The wisest man?*

A. Solomon.

Q. *The most patient man?*

A. Job.

Q. *Who built the ark?*

A. Noah.

Q. *Who went to heaven without dying?*

A. Enoch and Elijah.

Q. *Who went to heaven in a chariot of fire?*

A. Elijah.

Q. *Who was the friend of God?*

A. Abraham.

Q. *Who ministered to the Lord when a child?*

A. Samuel.

Q. *Who was hated by his brethren?*

A. Joseph.

Q. *Who was the sweet singer of Israel?*

A. David.

Q. *Who built the temple?*

A. Solomon.

Q. *Who hid 100 of the Lord's prophets in a cave?*
A. Obadiah.
Q. *Who was fed by ravens?*
A. Elijah.
Q. *Who was swallowed by a whale?*
A. Jonah.
Q. *Who was cast into a lions' den?*
A. Daniel.
Q. *Who were cast into the furnace of fire?*
A. The Hebrew children.
Q. *Who was the greatest of the prophets?*
A. Isaiah.
Q. *Who was the weeping prophet?*
A. Jeremiah.
Q. *Who saw the glory of the Lord?*
A. Ezekiel.

LESSON XX.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS ON NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY.

Q. *Who betrayed his Master?*
A. Judas Iscariot.

Q. *For how much?*
A. Thirty pieces of silver.
Q. *Who denied his Lord?*
A. Peter.
Q. *Who was the doubting disciple?*
A. Thomas.
Q. *Who was the beloved disciple?*
A. John.
Q. *Who was the chief of the apostles?*
A. Paul.
Q. *How many apostles were there at first?*
A. Twelve.
Q. *Who was the first Christian martyr?*
A. Stephen.
Q. *Which of the apostles was delivered out of prison by an angel?*
A. Peter.
Q. *Which was killed by the sword?*
A. James, the brother of John.
Q. *Who sang praises at midnight while in prison?*
A. Paul and Silas.

Q. *Who was banished to the isle of Patmos?*

A. John, the apostle.

Q. *Who were struck dead for lying?*

A. Ananias and Sapphira.

Q. *Who was early taught the Scriptures?*

A. Timothy.

Q. *Where were the disciples first called Christians?*

A. At Antioch.

Q. *Who said "Go thy way this time"?*

A. Felix.

Q. *Who said "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian"?*

A. King Agrippa.

Q. *Who sent Paul bound to Rome?*

A. Festus.

Q. *Who condemned Paul to death?*

A. The Emperor Nero.

Q. *Who is the glorious King of kings and Lord of lords?*

A. The Lord Jesus Christ.

Q. *Who are subject unto Him?*

A. Angels and principalities and powers.

Q. *Who will come to judge the world at the last day?*

A. Jesus Christ.

Q. *What belong to Him?*

A. All power and glory.

Q. *What doxology expresses this?*

A. "To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

EXODUS XX. 1-17.

God spake all these words, saying, I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

I.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I, the LORD thy God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the

fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me: and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III.

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.

IV.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD thy God; in *it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates: for *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V.

Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

VI.

Thou shalt not kill.

VII.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII.

Thou shalt not steal.

IX.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

MATTHEW vi. 9-13.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as *it is* in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

THE CREED.

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFICIAL

COMMUNITY SONG BOOK

COMPLIMENTS OF

THE DEMOCRAT
PRINTING AND LITHOGRAPHING
COMPANY

"THE ARKANSAS HOUSE"

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I. PATRIOTIC

Desks

—

Chairs

—

Cabinets

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1 STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Oh! say, can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?

2 AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim's pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

Our fathers' God! to thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright,
With Freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God our King.

3 BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:
He is tramping out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored:
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

Chorus

Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

4 COLUMBIA, THE GEM OF THE OCEAN

O, Columbia! the gem of the ocean
The home of the brave and the free,
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,
A world offers homage to thee.
Thy mandates make heroes assemble,
When Liberty's form stands in view;
Thy banners make tyranny tremble,
When borne by the Red, White and Blue.

Chorus

Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue.
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue,
The Army and Navy forever,
Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue,

5 AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.
O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

6 ARKANSAS

OFFICIAL STATE SONG

(Words and Music by Mrs. Eva Ware Barnett)

I am thinking tonight of the Southland,
Of the home of my childhood days,
Where I roamed through woods and the meadows,
By the mill and the brook that plays;
Where the roses are in bloom, and the sweet magnolia, too.
Where the jasmine is white, and the fields are violet blue,
There's a welcome awaits all her children
Who have wandered afar from home.

Chorus:

Arkansas, Arkansas, 'tis a name dear
'Tis the place I call Home, Sweet Home.
Arkansas, Arkansas, I salute thee,
From thy shelter no more I'll roam.

7 ARKANSAS, "THE WONDER STATE"

(Words and Music by C. Harold Christner.)

Arkansas the land of plenty
We are proud to call our own,
It is filled with happy people
Who know how to love their home.
A record we are making
In pushing to the front,
A better state you'll never find
No matter where you hunt.

Chorus:

Arkansas, the "Wonder State,"
Arkansas is up-to-date,
Everything you need is here
Things to eat, to drink or wear.
If its cotton or corn or those apples so red
If its coal or its diamonds, or stock that's pure bred
We've got 'em all, we've got 'em all,
We've got 'em all in Arkansas.
Hark! Hark! Hark! Hark! Can't you hear them calling
To the play grounds in Arkansas?

8 DIXIE

I wish I was in the land of cotton,
Old times there are not forgotten,
Look away, Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.
In Dixie Land where I was born in,
Early on one frosty mornin',
Look away, Look away! Look away! Dixie Land.

Chorus

Then I wish I was in Dixie,
Hooray! Hooray!
In Dixie Land I'll take my stand,
To live and die in Dixie.
Away, away, away down south in Dixie,
Away, away, away down south in Dixie.

II. BALLADS AND FOLK SONGS

Loose

Leaf

Devices

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9 OLD BLACK JOE

Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay,
Gone are my friends from the cotton fields away,
Gone from this earth to a better land, I know,
I hear their gentle voices calling, "Old Black Joe."

Chorus

I'm coming, I'm coming, for my head is bending low,
I hear those gentle voices calling, "Old Black Joe."

10 MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME

The sun shines bright in my old Kentucky home,
'Tis Summer, the darkies are gay;
The corn-top's ripe, and the meadow's all in bloom,
While the birds make music all the day.

(Same tune.)

The young folks roll on the little cabin floor,
All merry, all happy and bright,
By'n by hard times comes a-knocking at the door,
Then my old Kentucky Home, good-night!

Chorus

Weep no more, my lady,
Oh, weep no more today!
We will sing one song for the old Kentucky Home,
For the old Kentucky Home, far away.

11 OLD FOLKS AT HOME

Way down upon the Swanee river,
Far, far away,
There's where my heart is turning ever,
There's where the old folks stay.

(Same tune.)

All up and down the whole creation,
Sadly I roam,
Still longing for the old plantation,
And for the old folks at home.

Chorus

All the world am sad and dreary,
Every where I roam,
Oh! darkies, how my heart grows weary,
Far from the old folks at home.

12 CARRY ME BACK TO OLD VIRGINNY

Carry me back to old Virginny,
That's where the cotton and the corn and 'tatoes grow,
That's where the birds warble sweet in the springtime,
That's where the old darkey's heart am long'd to go.
That's where I labor'd so hard for old massa,
Day after day in the field of yellow corn,
No place on earth do I love more sincerely
Than old Virginny, the state where I was born.

Chorus

Carry me back to old Virginny,
That's where the cotton and the corn and 'tatoes grow,
That's where the birds warble sweetly in the spring-
time,
That's where the old darkey's heart am long'd to go.

13 LOVE'S OLD SWEET SONG

Once in the dear, dead days beyond recall,
When on the world the mist began to fall,
Out of the dreams that rose in happy throng,
Low to our hearts Love sang an old sweet song;
And in the dusk where fell the fire-light gleam,
Softly it wove itself into our dream.

Chorus

Just a song at twilight, when the lights are low,
And the flick'ring shadows softly come and go,
Tho' the heart be weary, sad the day and long,
Still to us at twilight, comes Love's old song,
Comes Love's old sweet song.

14 MOTHER MACHREE

There's a spot in my heart which no colleen may own,
There's a depth in my soul never sounded or known;
There's a place in my mem'ry, my life that you fill,
No other can take it, no one ever will.

Chorus

Sure I love the dear silver that shines in your hair,
And the brow that's all furrowed, and wrinkled with
care,
I kiss the dear fingers, so toil-worn for me,
Oh, God bless you and keep you, Mother Machree!

15 A PERFECT DAY

When you come to the end of a perfect day
And you sit alone with your thought;
While the chimes ring out with a carol gay
For the joy that the day has brought.
Do you think what the end of a perfect day
Can mean to a tired heart,
When the sun goes down with a flaming ray
And the dear friends have to part?

Well, this is the end of a perfect day,
Near the end of a journey, too;
But it leaves a thought that is big and strong
With a wish that is kind and true.
For Mem'ry has painted this perfect day
With colors that never fade,
And we find at the end of a perfect day
The soul of a friend we've made.

16 MY BONNIE

My Bonnie lies over the ocean,
My Bonnie lies over the sea;
My Bonnie lies over the ocean,
Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.

Chorus

Bring back, bring back,
Bring back my Bonnie to me, to me;
Bring back, bring back,
Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.

17 DARLING NELLIE GRAY

There's a low green valley on the old Kentucky shore,
There I've whiled many happy hours away,
A-sitting and a-singing by the little cottage door,
Where lived my darling Nellie Gray.

Chorus

Oh, my darling Nellie Gray, they have taken you away,
And I'll never see my darling any more;
I'm sitting by the river and I'm weeping all the day,
For you've gone from the old Kentucky shore.

18 MASSA'S IN THE COLD, COLD GROUND

Round de meadows am a-ringing
De darky's mournful song,
While de mocking-bird am singing,
Happy as the day am long.
(Same tune.)
Where de ivy am a-creeping,
O'er de grassy mound,
Dere old Massa am a-sleeping,
Sleeping in de cold, cold ground.

Chorus

Down in the corn-field
Hear dat mournful sound;
All de darkies am a-weeping,
Massa's in de cold, cold ground.

19 AULD LANG SYNE

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And the days of auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

20 WHEN YOU AND I WERE YOUNG, MAGGIE

I wandered today to the hill, Maggie,
To watch the scene below,
The creek and the old rusty mill, Maggie,
Where we sat in the long, long ago.
The green grove is gone from the hill, Maggie,
Where first the daisies sprung;
The old rusty mill is still, Maggie,
Since you and I were young.

Chorus

And now we are aged and gray, Maggie,
The trials of life nearly done,
Let us sing of the days that are gone, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

21 THE OLD OAKEN BUCKET

How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view,
The orchard, the meadow, the deep tangled wildwood,
And every loved spot which my infancy knew.
The wide-spreading pond, and the mill that stood by it,
The bridge and the rock where the cataract fell;
The cot of my father, the dairy house nigh it,
And e'en the rude bucket that hung in the well.

Chorus

The old oaken bucket, the iron-bound bucket,
The moss-covered bucket, that hung in the well.

22 DRINK TO ME ONLY WITH THINE EYES

Drink to me only with thine eyes
And I will pledge with mine.
Or leave a kiss within the cup,
And I'll not ask for wine.
The thirst that from the soul doth shine,
Doth ask a drink divine;
But might I of Jove's nectar sip,
I would not change for thine.

I sent thee late a rosy wreath,
Not so much hon'ring thee
As giving it a hope that there
It could not withered be;
But thou thereon didst only breathe,
And sent 'st it back to me;
Since when it grows and smells, I swear,
Not of itself, but thee.

23 JUANITA

Soft o'er the fountain,
Ling'ring falls the southern moon
Far o'er the mountain,
Breaks the day too soon!
In thy dark eyes splendor,
Where the warm light loves to dwell,
Weary looks, yet tender,
Speak their fond farewell.
Nita! Juanita! Ask thy soul if we should part
Nita! Juanita! Lean thou on my heart

When in thy dreaming,
Moons like these shall shine again
And daylight beaming,
Proves thy dreams are vain,
Wilt thou not relenting,
For thine absent lover sight?
In thy heart consenting
To a prayer gone by?
Nita! Juanita! Let me linger by thy side!
Nita! Juanita! Be my own fair bride!

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24 SWEET AND LOW

Sweet and low, sweet and low,
Wind of the western sea;
Low, low, breathe and blow,
Wind of the western sea;
Over the rolling waters go,
Come from the dying moon and blow,
Blow him again to me,
While my little one,
While my pretty one sleeps.

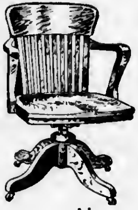
Sleep and rest, sleep and rest,
Father will come to the soon;
Rest, rest, on mother's breast,
Father will come to thee soon;
Father will come to his babe in the nest,
Silver sails out of the west;
Under the silver moon,
Sleep, my little one,
Sleep, my pretty one, sleep.

25 THERE'S A LONG, LONG TRAIL

There's a long, long trail a-winding
Into the land of my dreams,
Where the nightingales are singing
And a white moon beams;
There's a long, long night of waiting
Until my dreams all come true;
Till the day when I'll be going down
That long, long trail with you.

26 KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING

Keep the home fires burning,
While our hearts are yearning,
Tho' the boys are far away, they long for home.
There's a silver lining,
Through the dark cloud shining,
Turn the dark cloud inside out
Till the boys come home.



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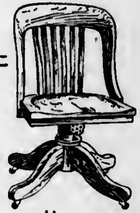

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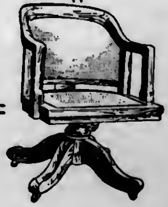


27 TIPPERARY

It's a long way to Tipperary,
It's a long way to go;
It's a long way to Tipperary,
To the sweetest girl I know!
Good-bye Piccadilly,
Farewell, Leicester Square,
It's a long, long way to Tipperary,
But my heart's right there.

28 SWEET ADELINE

Sweet Adeline, Sweet Adeline,
For you, dear heart, alone I pine;
In all my dreams, your fair face beams,
You're the flower of my heart,
Sweet Adeline.

29 MOONLIGHT IN DIXIE

In the evening by the moonlight
You can hear dem darkies singing,
In the evening by the moonlight
You can hear dem banjos ringing,
How the old folks do enjoy it,
They will sit all night and listen,
As they sing in the evening by the moonlight.

30 GOOD NIGHT, LADIES

Good night ladies; good night ladies,
Good night, ladies, we're going to leave you now;
Merrily we roll along, roll along, roll along,
Merrily we roll along o'er the deep blue sea.

Sweet dreams, ladies; sweet dreams, ladies;
Sweet dreams, ladies, we're going to leave you now;
Merrily we roll along, roll along, roll along,
Merrily we roll along o'er the deep blue sea.

31 TUCK ME TO SLEEP IN MY OLD 'TUCKY HOME

Old Kentucky cradled me when I was born,
Old Kentucky how I miss your field of corn,
Night time when I get to bed
How I weep and toss my head,
I'll weep no more I'm goin' back instead.

Chorus

Tuck me to sleep in my old 'Tucky home
Cover me with Dixie skies and leave me there alone.
Just let the sun kiss my cheeks ev'ry morn;
Like the kissin' I've been missin'
From my Mammy since I'm gone.
I aint had a bit of rest, since I left my Mammy's nest,
I can always rest the best in her lovin' arms.
Tuck me to sleep in my old Tucky home
Let me lay there, stay there never no more to roam.

32 I WANT TO BE IN TENNESSEE

When the shades of night are falling,
Tennessee, I hear you calling;
My thoughts just roam back to home, sweet home,
Ev'ry day my heart grows fonder,
Of the folks I left down yonder;
I wonder when I'll be there again.

Chorus

I wanna be in Tennessee in my Dixie paradise,
An angel's voice I hear, I mean my mammy dear.
I'd give my soul if I could stroll down among those hills again;
For all the world would not be dreary then,
I'd love to go to sleep and know, that tomorrow I'd arise,
Beneath those southern skies, where song birds harmonize.
Lawdy hear my plea, make me what I wanna be;
A rolling stone just rolling home to my sunny Tennessee.

33 LEAVE ME WITH A SMILE

Just like the sunrise, you came to me it seems,
Just like the sunrise, you wake me from my dreams.
You were my sunshine, in days that use to be;
I await the sunset, for now you're leaving me.

Chorus

Tho' it's time for parting, and my tears are starting,
Leave me with a smile.
Tho' your heart may cry, dear; when you say good bye dear,
Leave me with a smile.
Maybe it's forever, so while we're together,
For a little while; hold me like a flower,
For one little hour, and leave me with a smile.

34 COAL BLACK MAMMY

I'm tired and I'm foot-sore and I'm weary,
I ache from my head down to my toes,
This world seems to be mighty dreary to me,
How I'll finish my journey Lordy knows!
But I know where I go that all is peaceful,
I'll lay on my pillow tonight,
An' I've pray'd how I've pray'd for that moment,
Now the end of the long trail's in sight.

Chorus

'Cause I'm goin', yes, I'm goin' with a love that's ever growin'
To that coal-black mammy o' mine,
Not a cent, not a cent, an' my clothes are only rent,
All the same she'll think I'm just fine,
How I've dreamed, how I've schemed, an' at times it almost seemed
That the sun would never, never shine;
That's why I'm goin', yes, I'm goin', mighty soon I'll be halloin'
To that coal-black mammy o' mine.

DEMOCRAT PRINT. & LITHO. CO. SONG BOOK

35 MISSOURI WALTZ

Hush-a-bye, ma baby, slumber-time is comin' soon;
Rest yo' head upon ma breast while mammy hums a tune.
The sandman is callin' where shadows are fallin',
While the soft breezes sigh, as in days long gone by,
'Way down in Missouri, where I heard this melody,
When I was a pickaninny on ma mammy's knee,
The darkies were hummin', their banjoes were strummin', so sweet and low.

36 PICK ME UP AND LAY ME DOWN IN DEAR OLD DIXIELAND

One day I watched a flock of Whip-poor-wills,
As they flew to their homes across the hills;
They were merrily flying,
To the South I knew
And I couldn't help crying;
"Take me there with you!"

Chorus:

Pick me up and lay me down in dear old Dixieland,
The sun shines there each morn—
That's where the sun was born.
My heart's been all wrapped up in that land of magic charms—
Carry me back to some one's empty arms.
Keep those darkies singing, till I get back;
To that ivy-clinging ram-shackle shack.
Pick me up just like my mammy; lead me by the hand,
And lay me down in dear old Dixieland.

37 TOMORROW

Say, did you ever stray, from the ones you love for
quite a while?
Then start back home again, never thinking of each
lonely mile.
Why I'm bound for Dixieland; so before another day,
I'll be on my merry way. And say

Chorus

Tomorrow, tomorrow, how happy I will be,
Tomorrow, tomorrow, back on my mammy's knee,
Lawdy me! What a great delight,
When I get a familiar sight,
Of the fuzzy old cat sneakin' from the stable,
Lickin' up milk on the kitchen table.
I know, tomorrow, a pair of loving arms,
Will hold me, enfold me as of yore.
Some how I just can't wait for a choo-choo train,
I'll hop right in an aerophlane,
And be in my Dixie home again, tomorrow.

38 OPEN YOUR ARMS, MY ALABAMY

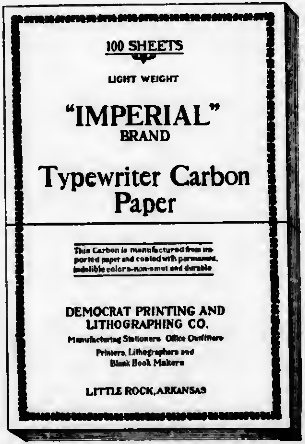
When I was a kid so high, I kissed my folks "Good-
bye"
That was in Alabamy, then I had a Dad and Mammy,
Now I pray upon my knees to live those memories.

Chorus

Open your arms my Alabamy, please take me to your
heart
And rock-a-bye me just like a mammy,
Bundle me up in all your sunshine, it's been a long
time
Since I have closed my eyes beneath your sunny
skies
Tell every little Posy to make it nice and cozy
Things haven't been so rosy, since I've been alone,
so
Open your arms my Alabamy
Please take me back to your heart and welcome me
home.

III. POPULAR SONGS

CARBON PAPER



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39 SMILES

There are smiles that make us happy,
There are smiles that make us blue,
There are smiles that steal away the tear-drops
As the sunbeams steal away the dew.
There are smiles that have a tender meaning
That the eyes of love alone may see,
But the smiles that fill my life with sunshine
Are the smiles that you give to me.

40 I WANT A GIRL

I want a girl, just like the girl that married dear old Dad;
She was a pearl and the only girl that Daddy ever had.
A good old-fashioned girl with heart so true,
One who loves nobody else but you.
I want a girl, just like the girl that married dear old dad.

41 KATY

K-K-K-Katy, beautiful Katy,
You're the only g-g-g-girl that I adore.
When the m-m-m moon shines
Over the cowshed,
I'll be waiting at the k-k-k-kitchen door.

42 PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES IN YOUR OLD KIT BAG

Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag
And smile, smile, smile.
While you've a lucifer to light your fag,
Smile, boys, that's the style.
What's the use of worrying?
It never was worth while, so
Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag
And smile, smile, smile.

43 PEGGY O'NEIL

Peggy O'Neil is a girl who could steal
Any heart, any where, any time,
And I'll put you wise how you'll recognize,
This wonderful girl of mine.

Chorus:

If her eyes are blue as skies, that's Peggy O'Neil,
If she's smiling all the while, that's Peggy O'Neil,
If she walks like a sly little rogue
If she talks with a cute little brogue,
Sweet personality, full of rascality,
That's Peggy O'Neil.

44 CALL ME BACK, PAL O' MINE

I am thinking today of a pal far away
That I left in the days long ago,
I am longing to hear just a voice ringing clear,
Oh! how I miss you so.

Chorus

Call me back Pal O' mine, let me dream once again,
Call me back to your heart Pal O' Mine,
Let me roam once again down in old lover's lane
As I did in the days gone by,
Let me live in your arms, let me thrill with your charms,
Let me kiss those sweet lips so divine,
Let me gaze in your eyes and I'll find paradise
Call me back to your heart Pal O' Mine.

45 SWANEE RIVER MOON

Swanee River moon, Swanee River moon,
Shining on my cabin door, I'm forever dreaming
While you're brightly beaming
Every night I need you more, I'm lonely;
Shine out bright tonight, with your silvery light,
For my love is coming soon.
On the Swanee shore we'll stroll once more,
Dreamy Swanee River moon.

DEMOCRAT PRINT. & LITHO. CO. SONG BOOK

46 WHEN THE LEAVES COME TUMBLING DOWN

Autumn, Autumn, look what you've done,
You've made a baby of me,
Autumn, Autumn, your setting sun
Pictures a sad memory.
Whenever leaves begin to fall,
Home again I seem to be.

Chorus:

I get so blue thru and thru
When the leaves come a-tumbling down
From the trees, down through the breeze,
I always sigh and I cry
When the sun says "Good-bye"
To the birds and the bees
Their sweet melodies,
I never shed a tear
When the summer days are here,
But when its autumn time,
Every thought of mine,
Seems so dark and drear,
I always sing that lonesome spring song melody
Becsuse you see,
It makes me think of some one
In a gingham gown in my home town,
I hear my old girl say a pray'r
Besides my mother's vacant chair,
I get so blue thru and thru
When the leaves come a tumbling down.

47 TILL WE MEET AGAIN

Smile the while you kiss me sad adieu
When the clouds roll by, I'll come to you
Then the skies will seem more blue
Down in lover's lane my dearie.
Wedding bells will ring so merrily
Ev'ry tear will be a memory
So wait and pray each night for me
Till we meet again.

48 YOUR EYES HAVE TOLD ME SO

I know my lips have never met your lips in sweet caress,
Your hand has never touch'd my hand with thrilling tenderness.
You never spoke of love to me and still somehow I know,
For love has made me wondrous wise, your eyes have told me so.
I saw your eyes, your wonderful eyes
With love-light and tenderness beaming
They thrilled me thru, they fill'd me, too,
With wonderful dreams I am dreaming
No need to speak, no more shall I seek
For my heart has taught me their meaning
And love has come at last I know
Your eyes have told me so.

49 LET THE REST OF THE WORLD GO BY

With some one like you, a pal good and true,
I'd like to leave it all behind and go and find
Some place that's known to God alone,
Just a spot to call our own.
We'll find perfect peace,
Where joys never cease,
Out there beneath a kindly sky,
We'll build a sweet little nest somewhere in the West,
And let the rest of the world go by.

50 BLOWING BUBBLES

CHORUS

I'm forever blowing bubbles—
Pretty bubbles in the air—
They fly so high, nearly reach the sky,
Then like my dreams they fade and die.
Fortune's always hiding—
I've looked everywhere—
I'm forever blowing bubbles—
Pretty bubbles in the air.

51 I USED TO LOVE YOU, BUT IT'S ALL OVER NOW

I used to bless the day I first met you, I planned so many things for just us two
But now it's plain to see that you have never cared for me
You can't deny you fooled me from the start
It's best we part, before you break my heart

Chorus

I use to love you, but it's all over, all over now,
You know it's all over town that you threw me down
But you shouldn't let that kind of story go 'round
For you've had your chance, and now it's all over,
I'll get along somehow—now there are things you did,
I use to forgive—but you'll never change as long as you live—
I use to love you, but it's all over, all over now.

52 APRIL SHOWERS

Life is not a highway strewn with flowers,
Still it holds a goodly share of bliss,
When the sun gives way to April showers,
Here's the point that you should never miss.

Refrain

Though April showers may come your way,
They bring the flowers that bloom in May
So if it's raining, have no regrets
Because it isn't raining rain you know, (It's raining violets,)
And where you see clouds upon the hills,
You soon will see crowds of daffodils,
So keep on looking for a blue bird and listening for his song,
When ever April showers come along.

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53 WHY SHOULD I CRY OVER YOU?

You said good bye, I wonder why,
And our romance was through,
You didn't care what sorrows I'd bear,
'Twas all in fun with you.

Chorus

I don't know why I should cry over you,
Sigh over you, even be blue,
I should have known that you'd leave me alone,
And break my heart in two;
Although you have left me alone to pine,
And all of my love was a waste of time,
Some day your heart may be broken like mine,
So why should I cry over you?

IV. STUNT SONGS

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55 ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream;
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.

56 JINGLE BELLS

Jingle bells! Jingle bells!
Jingle all the way!
Oh! what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh!
Jingle bells! Jingle bells!
Jingle all the way!
Oh! what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh!

57 REUBEN AND RACHEL

1

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinking
What a queer world this would be,
If the men were all transported
Far beyond the Northern Sea!
Rachel, Rachel, I've been thinking
What a queer world this would be,
If the girls were all transported
Far beyond the Northern Sea.

2

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinking
Life woud be so easy then;
What a lovely world this would be
If there were no tiresome men!
Rachel, Rachel, I've been thinking
Life woud be so easy then;
What a lovely world this would be
If you'd leave it to the men!

3

Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinking
If we went beyond the seas,
All the men would follow after
Like a swarm of bumble-bees!
Rachel, Rachel, I've been thinking.
If we went beyond the seas.
All the girls would follow after
Like a swarm of honey-bees.

58 OLD McDONALD HAD A FARM

Old MacDonald had a farm,
Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!
And on this farm he had some chicks,
Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!
With a chick-chick here, a chick-chick there, here a chick, there a chick,
Everywhere a chick-chick,
Old MacDonald had a farm,
Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!

Continue with ducks (quack-quack), turkeys (gobble-gobble), Ford (rattle-rattle), etc.

59 HOWDY DO HEN

Refrain

How-dy do, Hen,
How-dy do, Jen,
How-dy do, Brother Hugh,
How-dy do, Sister Prue,
How-dy do, Bill,
How-dy do, Lil,
How-dy do, Lew and Sue,
How-dy do.

60 GUEST SONG

Howdy do, Mr. ______________, howdy do,
Is there anything that we can do for you?
We'll do anything we can
We are with you to a man,
Howdy do, Mr. ______________, howdy do.

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—BY—

MRS. ANNA L. PRICE.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

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MOTHER'S CATECHISM.

QUESTION. *Who made this world you live in?*

ANSWER. God.

QUEST. *Who made you?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *Who made all things?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *What does this teach you?*

ANS. God is great.

QUEST. *Who feeds you, clothes you, gives you friends and home?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *Who would save you in heaven at last?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *What does this teach you?*

ANS. God is good.

QUEST. *Repeat a Bible verse about it.*

ANS. "God is love." (1 John iv. 8.)

QUEST. *What book tells of God?*

ANS. The Bible.

QUEST. *Which is the best book, then, of all books?*

ANS. The Bible.

QUEST. *What other name is given to the Bible?*

ANS. The Scriptures.

QUEST. *Repeat a verse about the Bible.*

ANS. "Search the Scriptures." (John v. 39.)

QUEST. *How many persons in the God-head?*

ANS. Three.

QUEST. *Name them.*

ANS. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

QUEST. *Does this make three Gods?*

ANS. Only one.

QUEST. *Where is God?*

ANS. In heaven.

QUEST. *Where besides?*

ANS. Everywhere.

QUEST. *Can you see God?*

ANS. I cannot.

QUEST. *Why?*

ANS. "God is a Spirit." (John iv. 24.)

QUEST. *Does God see you all the time?*

ANS. He does.

QUEST. *How should this make you feel about doing wrong?*

ANS. Afraid.

QUEST. *If you should be tempted to tell a lie, or to steal, and no one on earth know it, who would see and know it all?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *Repeat a Bible verse on the subject.*

ANS. "Thou, God, seest me." (Gen. xvi. 13.)

QUEST. *What is your body made of?*

ANS. Dust.

QUEST. *What must your body turn to at death?*

ANS. Dust.

QUEST. *Will the body rise from the dust?*

ANS. It will.

QUEST. *When?*

ANS. At the resurrection.

QUEST. *What does that mean?*

ANS. Rising again.

QUEST. *What is there within you not made of dust and that can never die?*

ANS. My spirit.

QUEST. *What becomes of the spirit when the body dies?*

ANS. It goes to God.

QUEST. *Where, if the spirit loved God?*

ANS. To heaven.

QUEST. *Where, if the spirit did not love God?*

ANS. To hell.

QUEST. *What kind of nature have you?*

ANS. Sinful.

QUEST. *Has the little baby a sinful nature?*

ANS. It has.

QUEST. *Are all people sinful by nature?*

ANS. They are.

QUEST. *What is our sinful nature called?*

ANS. An evil heart.

QUEST. *What is all evil called?*

ANS. Sin.

QUEST. *How came sin into our world?*

ANS. Through our first parents.

QUEST. *Who were our first parents?*

ANS. Adam and Eve.

QUEST. *Who tempted them to sin?*

ANS. Satan.

QUEST. *Who tempts you and every one now to sin?*

ANS. Satan.

QUEST. *Can you see this evil one, Satan?*

ANS. I cannot.

QUEST. *How do you know of his being?*

ANS. I feel evil in my heart.

QUEST. *And do you not often do wrong?*

ANS. I do.

QUEST. *When you are naughty do your parents love you?*

ANS. They love me and care for me all the time.

QUEST. *Yes, you are right; but when you are naughty, is their love to you mixed with pleasure?*

ANS. It is not.

QUEST. *What is that love mixed with then?*

ANS. Pity.

QUEST. *So with God: does He love you all the time, whether you are good or bad?*

ANS. He does.

QUEST. *What were we when Christ died for us?*

ANS. Sinners.

QUEST. *What does the Bible compare Satan to?*

ANS. A roaring lion.

QUEST. *Seeking to do what?*

ANS. To destroy.

QUEST. *What did sin and Satan bring into the world?*

ANS. Trouble, pain and death.

QUEST. *What led God to save man?*

ANS. Love.

QUEST. *How?*

ANS. Through Jesus Christ.

QUEST. *How could Jesus save sinners?*

ANS. By dying.

QUEST. *Who are sinners?*

ANS. Everybody.

QUEST. *Are you a sinner?*

ANS. I am.

QUEST. *Tell me then again whom God sent into the world to die for sinners.*

ANS. Jesus, the Son of God.

QUEST. *Repeat a Scripture verse.*

ANS. "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (1 Tim. i. 15.)

QUEST. *Jesus came?*

ANS. He did.

QUEST. *How?*

ANS. Born as a little child.

QUEST. *Who was His mother?*

ANS. Mary.

QUEST. *What did Christ lead?*

ANS. A holy life.

QUEST. *What did Jesus die?*

ANS. A cruel death.

QUEST. *What kind of a death?*

ANS. Nailed to the cross.

QUEST. *Was Jesus buried?*

ANS. He was.

QUEST. *For how long?*

ANS. Three days.

QUEST. *Then what?*

ANS. He rose from the grave.

QUEST. *What saves us?*

ANS. The blood of Christ.

QUEST. *What cleanseth us from sin?*

ANS. The blood of Christ.

QUEST. *Who applies to us the blood of Christ?*

ANS. The Holy Spirit.

QUEST. *If you wish to be a child of God, who forms that wish in you?*

ANS. The Holy Spirit.

QUEST. *Will God save all who come to Him, led of the Spirit?*

ANS. He will.

QUEST. *What is this called?*

ANS. Believing.

QUEST. *Believing in whom?*

ANS. In Jesus Christ.

QUEST. *What else?*

ANS. Looking to Christ.

QUEST. *What else?*

ANS. Following after Christ.

QUEST. *What else?*

ANS. Faith.

QUEST. *What else?*

ANS. A new heart.

QUEST. *Who gives this new heart?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *How is it now?*

ANS. By nature I am sinful.

QUEST. *That is your evil heart, is it not?*

ANS. It is.

QUEST. *By nature you do not love God?*

ANS. No.

QUEST. *But when the Holy Spirit moves upon your heart, you begin to love God?*

ANS. Yes.

QUEST. *And is not this truly a new heart?*

ANS. It is.

QUEST. *Can little children believe in Christ?*

ANS. Oh! yes.

QUEST. *For what is it simply?*

ANS. Loving God.

QUEST. *And what else?*

ANS. Serving God.

QUEST. *To whom must little children look that hey may love and serve God?*

ANS. To God, through the Holy Spirit.

QUEST. *What does God say in His Word?*

ANS. "I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me." (Prov. viii. 17.)

QUEST. *Does Jesus love little children?*

ANS. He does.

QUEST. *How do you know this?*

ANS. He took them up in His arms and blessed them.

QUEST. *Tell me the verse about that.*

ANS. "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." (Mark x. 14.)

QUEST. *If any one loves God, what will he try to do?*

ANS. Keep the commandments of God.

QUEST. *For what did Jesus say?*

ANS. "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John xiv. 15.)

QUEST. *Do you pray to God?*

ANS. Every night and morning.

QUEST. *But God will hear prayer at any time, will He not?*

ANS. Oh! yes.

QUEST. *What may prayer be called?*

ANS. Talking to God.

QUEST. *Repeat your little nightly prayer.*

ANS. "Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take;
And this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen."

QUEST. *Repeat your little morning prayer.*

ANS. "Now I wake from pleasant sleep,
I pray Thee, Lord, Thy child to keep;
To lead my steps through all this day
For Jesus' blessed sake alway. Amen."

QUEST. *What prayer did Christ give us?*

ANS. The Lord's prayer.

QUEST. *Repeat the beginning of the Lord's prayer.*

ANS. Our Father, who art in heaven.

QUEST. *What do we pray for first in the Lord's prayer?*

ANS. Hallowed be Thy name.

QUEST. *Secondly?*

ANS. Thy kingdom come.

QUEST. *Thirdly?*

ANS. Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

QUEST. *Fourthly?*

ANS. Give us this day our daily bread.

QUEST. *Fifthly?*

ANS. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

QUEST. *Sixthly?*

ANS. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

QUEST. *What is the end of the Lord's prayer?*

ANS. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

QUEST. *How are we saved, again I ask?*

ANS. Jesus died: His blood saves us.

QUEST *And the Holy Spirit, sent of God,*

forms Christ in our hearts and leads us to believe on Him, to love and serve Him—is it not so?

ANS. It is.

QUEST. *If we truly love God, what will we try hard against?*

ANS. All sin.

QUEST. *And try hard toward what?*

ANS. All duty.

QUEST. *What is duty?*

ANS. Any right thing to be done.

QUEST. *Are there not some commandments in the Bible?*

ANS Yes, ten.

QUEST. *Who gave them?*

ANS. God.

QUEST. *Into whose hands?*

ANS. Moses'.

QUEST. *Written how?*

ANS. On two tables of stone.

QUEST. *In what part of the Bible do you find them?*

ANS. The Old Testament.

Here they are, shortened for you, and put in verse; learn and repeat them.

I. No God before me shalt thou own.
II. Place not an idol on my throne.
III. Speak not God's name in careless way.
IV. Remember: keep God's holy day.

V. Honor and heed thy parents' will.
VI. Bear this in mind: thou shalt not kill.
VII. Let all thy words and ways be clean.
VIII. Steal not: all things by God are seen.
IX. Tell not a lie, or act untrue.
X. And want no more than God gives you.

QUEST. *What did Jesus give?*

ANS. A new commandment.

QUEST. *Where do you find it?*

ANS. In the New Testament.

QUEST. *What is it?*

ANS. To love one another.

QUEST. *Where is Jesus now?*

ANS. In heaven.

QUEST. *What is He doing?*

ANS. Interceding.

QUEST. *What does that mean?*

ANS. Praying.

QUEST. *For whom?*

ANS. For sinners.

QUEST. *What else is Christ doing?*

ANS. Preparing a place.

QUEST. *For whom?*

ANS. For those that love him.

QUEST. *Repeat a Bible verse about this.*

ANS. "I go to prepare a place for you." (John xiv. 2.)

QUEST. *Will not Jesus come here again?*

ANS. He will.

QUEST. *When?*

ANS. We do not know.

QUEST. *What did Jesus say?*

ANS. "I will come again." (John xiv. 3.)

QUEST. *What ought you to be doing for Jesus here on earth?*

ANS. Serving Him.

QUEST. *Can you, a little child, serve God?*

ANS. I can.

QUEST. *How?*

ANS. In many ways.

QUEST. *But tell me some.*

ANS. By minding my parents and being kind to all.

QUEST. *And how else?*

ANS. By denying myself.

QUEST. *What do you mean by that?*

ANS. Doing what is right when I had rather do some other thing.

QUEST. *For instance?*

ANS. Rock baby's cradle or do something else in the house when I would like to go out to play.

QUEST. *Tell me another way.*

ANS. Instead of spending my penny for candy, give it to the heathen.

QUEST. *Who are the heathen?*

ANS. Those across the sea who know not God.

QUEST. *How would your penny help them?*

ANS. It would buy a tract or something to tell them of God.

QUEST. *What are those called who go over there to teach the heathen?*

ANS. Missionaries.

QUEST. *And it is our duty to take care of those missionaries, is it not?*

ANS. Yes.

QUEST. *And for this money is needed?*

ANS. It is.

QUEST. *When Jesus has that place ready what will He do?*

ANS. Send for His people.

QUEST. *For what?*

ANS. To come and live with Him.

QUEST. *Where?*

ANS. In heaven.

QUEST. *Do you want to go and live with Christ in heaven some day?*

ANS. Oh! yes.

God grant you may, and to this end may Jesus bless and keep you alway.

THE END.

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